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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 1-53

January 19, 1953

## LARGE RICE CROP FORESEEN IN BRAZIL

Brazil expects to harvest a rice crop in 1952-53 of around 7,000 million pounds of rough rice, an increase of 8 percent over a year ago, according to a report from the American Consul, Porto Alegre. Production will be about the same as the record of 2 years ago, if crop conditions continue favorable. Most of the crop was planted from September to December and will be harvested from March through May.

The forecast of Brazil's rice acreage is 4,900,000 acres, an area which is only 4 percent larger than the 4,700,000 acres of the preceding year. The main reason for the expected increase in production is favorable crop conditions in the 3 States of largest production, Rio Grande do Sul, Sao Paulo, and Minas Gerais.

Table I. BRAZIL: Rice acreage, yield per acre, and production, averages 1936-50, annual 1951-53

Year	Acreage	Yield per acre	Production	
			Rough	In terms of milled 1/ Million pounds
Average:	1,000 acres	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1936-40.....	2,323	1,287	2,989.1	1,943
1941-45.....	3,042	1,409	4,285.8	2,786
1946-50.....	4,290	1,423	6,105.7	3,969
1951.....	4,861	1,443	7,015.2	4,560
1952 2/.....	4,700	1,383	6,500.0	4,225
1953 2/.....	4,900	1,429	7,000.0	4,550

1/ Converted from rough rice to terms of milled at 65 percent.

2/ Preliminary.

Compiled from official sources, except for 1952 and 1953.

The Rio Grande do Sul Rice Institute, a reliable source of rice statistics of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, forecasts that State's rough rice production in 1952-53 at 1,320 million pounds harvested from an acreage of 593,000 acres. The Institute recently has revised the estimate of last year's (1951-52) rice acreage and production upward from 552,000 to 563,000 acres and 1,213 million to 1,257 million pounds of rough rice.

The rice acreage of Sao Paulo State in 1952-53 is estimated at 1,256,000 acres, an increase of 140,000 acres from the year before. The new crop of that State has not yet been estimated, but the harvest should be considerably larger than last year, when the yield per acre was reduced by drought.

#### Exportable supplies

Export availabilities from the 1952-53 crop of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil's principal rice-exporting State, are estimated at 300 million pounds of milled rice, provided favorable crop conditions continue through the March-May harvest. New-crop rice probably will be on the export market in September after provision is made for the rice requirements of all Brazil. Despite an increase in the rice production of Sao Paulo State this year, rice from the new crop is not expected to be available for export.

Rice stocks from the 1951-52 crop of Rio Grande do Sul State at the present time are believed to be at a very low level. In addition to the large volume exported to foreign countries last year, sizable shipments were made to Sao Paulo because of the short crop produced there in 1951-52.

Rice exports from January through August 1952 from all Brazil (virtually all from the State of Rio Grande do Sul) totaled 339 million pounds of milled rice compared with 198 million pounds in the corresponding period of 1951. More than four-fifths of the exports were shipped to Indonesia.

Table II. BRAZIL: Rice (in terms of milled) exports, by country of destination, January-August, with comparisons

Country of destination	1948	1949	1950	1951	January-August 1/	1952
	Million pounds					
United Kingdom.....	0	0	125	59		0
Germany.....	5	0	0	9		7
Switzerland.....	3	0	4	0		0
Ceylon.....	36	0	0	0		0
India.....	127	0	0	0		0
Malaya.....	62	0	0	0		0
Portugal.....	0	0	24	0		0
Union of So. Africa..	35	0	0	0		0
French West Indies..	13	1	7	1		2
Bolivia.....	2/	2/	1	11		4
Br. West Indies.....	19	0	3/	20		9
Chile.....	0	0	0	0		11
Indonesia.....	42	0	0	0		295
Senegal.....	33	0	31	0		0
Peru.....	0	0	3/	77		0
Canada.....	0	0	3/	3		3
Other countries.....	100	2/	17	18		8
Total.....	475	2	209	198		339

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 3/ If any, not separately reported.

Compiled from official sources.

Prices

Not only have the heavy exports of rice from Rio Grande do Sul State in 1952 reduced stocks but also the quantity available for consumption within the State and thus have occasioned a scarcity and high prices of rice. Because of the sharp increase in rice prices to consumers recently, the local branch of the Federal Price Stabilization Board has ruled that wholesalers will sell to the Rice Institute at the established floor price a quantity equal to 15 percent of their shipments to markets outside the State. Following are the established prices to wholesalers for the principal types of polished rice in 60-kilogram bags placed in Porto Alegre: Blue Rose Primeira, Cruzeiros 240.00 (\$9.80 per 100 pounds) and Japanes Primeira, Cruzeiros 235.00 (\$9.59 per 100 pounds).

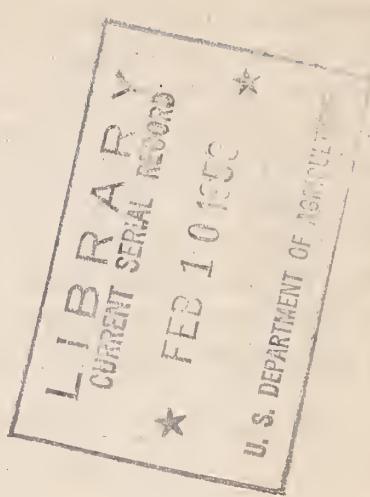
Table III. RICE (milled): Wholesale price, in  
Brazilian markets, December 30, 1952

Rio Grande do Sul		:	Sao Paulo	
Grade	:	Prices	Grade	Prices
	:	Dollars per		Dollars per
	:	<u>100 pounds</u>		<u>100 pounds</u>
Agulha First (long grain)	:	15.92-16.33	Amarclao Extra (long grain)	19.60-20.41
Blue Rose First (medium grain)	:	12.86-13.06	Agulha Extra (long grain)	17.35-17.76
Japanes First (short grain)	:	11.43-11.84	Agulha Especial (long grain)	16.94-17.15
	:			

Source: Consular Report.

Rio Grande do Sul's exporters are reported to believe that because of the relatively high production costs there, little possibility exists of reducing the present export price for milled rice of US\$250.00 per metric ton (\$11.34 per 100 pounds) f.o.b. Rio Grande.

Prices to producers in that State will be established in March before the harvesting begins. For rough rice from the 1952-53 crop, growers are asking a minimum price of Cr. \$120.00 per 50-kilogram bag (\$5.88 per 100 pounds) compared with Cr. \$105.00 (\$5.14 per 100 pounds) for the previous crop.



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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR



OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 2-53

March 2, 1953.

## WORLD RICE GROWERS PRODUCE RECORD CROP

World rice production in 1952-53 (August-July) is estimated at a record of 357,000 million pounds of rough rice as compared with 337,000 million pounds a year earlier, according to the second estimate of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The unusually large crop this year is attributed to record plantings and favorable weather in most countries.

The previous record postwar harvest of 1948-49 was estimated at 342,000 million pounds of rough rice, which was about the same size as the largest world harvests before World War II. In comparison, this season's world rice crop is estimated at 4 percent larger than the previous postwar high; at 6 percent above a year earlier, and at 7 percent more than the prewar average (1935-36/39-40) outturn.

Producers of all the Continents increased the rice acreage even beyond the successive gains of the 2 preceding years. In contrast with those years, when adverse weather restricted output, the weather in 1952-53 was favorable in many countries of production.

Two principal reasons for the outstanding increase in production have been (1) unusually high prices paid for rice in 1952 as a result of shortages in importing countries, which induced growers in all areas to increase plantings, and (2) the concerted effort of world organizations and Governments to stimulate rice production. The Continent showing the largest gain is Asia, whose 1952-53 production is estimated at 6 percent larger than in the preceding year and 3 percent above the prewar average. Excluding China, Asia's production is estimated at 224,000 million pounds of rough rice, an increase of 12,000 million pounds over the preceding year, and 15 million pounds, or 7 percent, above the prewar average outturn. Increases in production have occurred in most of the countries of Asia.

### Importing countries:

The principal gains in production occurred in the heavy rice-importing countries of Asia. India planted one of its largest acreages in rice, and weather permitted the harvesting of larger yields per acre than in the last 2 years. Production increased in Japan, Pakistan, and Korea. Because of the harvesting of a record Philippine crop, that country probably will not need to import rice in 1953.

RICE (rough): Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries,  
averages 1935-36/39-40 and 1945-46/49-50, annual 1950-51  
to 1952-53 1/

Continent and country	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average			Average			Average		
	1935-36 : 1945-46	1950-51	1952-53	1935-36 : 1945-46	1950-51	1952-53	1935-36 : 1945-46	1950-51	1952-53
North America	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Costa Rica.....	35:	41:	55:	57:	66:	1,066:	1,078:	1,175:	1,321:
El Salvador.....	26:	41:	35:	40:	35:	1,392:	1,402:	1,349:	1,432:
Mexico.....	96:	190:	262:	257:	222:	1,904:	1,731:	1,203:	1,278:
Nicaragua.....	25:	28:	40:	31:	36:	1,080:	1,286:	1,205:	1,384:
Panama.....	48:	124:	163:	164:	160:	1,042:	1,169:	1,164:	1,121:
United States.....	1,004:	1,690:	1,620:	1,967:	1,972:	2,234:	2,099:	2,388:	2,328:
Cuba.....	45:	114:	126:	133:	145:	958:	1,075:	1,325:	1,735:
Dominican Republic.....	80:	100:	115:	112:	133:	1,055:	1,207:	1,165:	1,265:
Total.....	1,423:	2,488:	2,585:	2,937:	2,956:	-	-	-	-
Europe	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
France.....	1:	7:	28:	44:	50:	1,400:	2,586:	3,739:	3,507:
Greece.....	5:	9:	24:	48:	53:	1,830:	2,167:	2,938:	2,573:
Italy.....	362:	305:	354:	420:	445:	4,677:	4,357:	4,608:	4,405:
Portugal.....	47:	53:	67:	77:	82:	3,253:	3,013:	3,982:	4,045:
Spain.....	110:	129:	143:	151:	159:	2/	5,600:	4,358:	4,615:
Russia.....	8:	7:	6:	7:	8:	1,200:	1,414:	2,200:	2,329:
Total countries shown.....	533:	510:	622:	747:	797:	-	-	-	2,150:
Other Europe.....	20:	49:	75:	88:	92:	-	-	-	-
Total Europe.....	553:	559:	697:	835:	889:	-	-	-	-
Asia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Iran.....	534:	544:	530:	471:	544:	1,566:	1,598:	1,693:	1,671:
Iraq.....	392:	643:	521:	520:	525:	1,283:	993:	1,058:	763:
Turkey.....	78:	56:	60:	75:	124:	2,642:	2,452:	2,835:	2,869:
Burma.....	12,671:	8,704:	9,264:	9,430:	9,840:	1,238:	1,116:	1,242:	1,230:
Ceylon.....	870:	964:	1,030:	1,123:	672:	584:	577:	681:	-
China.....	4/ 48,853:	45,557:	45,700:	45,350:	46,458:4/	2,259:	2,219:	2,265:	2,161:
Manchuria.....	782:	600:	857:	893:	920:	1,829:	1,752:	1,663:	1,697:
India.....	62,590:	70,600:	75,990:	73,595:	75,500:	1,194:	1,082:	921:	1,019:
Indochina 5/.....	14,306:	12,060:	12,100:	12,700:	1,006:	987:	992:	1,000:	992:
Indonesia:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Java and Madura.....	9,794:	8,922:	9,958:	10,181:	-	1,442:	1,325:	1,438:	1,454:
Outer Islands.....	5,500:	6,150:	5,075:	6,054:	-	1,273:	1,216:	1,254:	1,161:
Japan.....	7,862:	7,832:	7,850:	7,870:	7,408:	3,116:	3,369:	3,148:	3,455:
Malaya.....	831:	865:	850:	799:	1,634:	1,367:	1,820:	1,518:	1,217.1:
Pakistan.....	18,706:	22,401:	22,900:6/	1,301:	1,245:	1,230:	1,230:	1,159:	1,201:6/
Total.....	24,339.8:	26,891.9:	27,559.8:	27,339.8:	26,891.9:	26,046.4:	27,500.0:	27,500.0:	27,500.0:

<u>ASIA (Continued)</u>																				
Philippine Republic.....	4,852:	4,963:	5,564:	6,388:	6,057:	973:	998:	1,037:	977:	1,109:	4,719.5:	4,952.8:	5,767.4:	6,238.7:	6,717.6					
South Korea.....	2,676:	2,691:	2,262:	2,280: <i>Y</i> /	2,293:	2,211:	2,403:	2,493:	2,493:	2,802.0:	5,916.4:	6,467.6:	5,916.4:	6,467.6:	5,640.0:	6,400.0				
Taiwan (Formosa).....	1,607:	1,638:	1,898:	1,925:	-:	2,393:	1,829:	2,153:	2,182:	-:	3,845.1:	2,996.7:	4,087.0:	4,200.0:	-:	-:				
Thailand.....	7,088:	10,212:	13,083:	14,061:	12,000:	1,353:	1,173:	1,163:	1,138:	1,283:	9,588.5:	11,784.7:	14,507.7:	16,000.0:	15,400.0					
Total.....	201,920:	206,645:	217,541:	218,123:	220,141:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	319,815.2:	303,356.0:	311,671.1:	310,055.9:	328,070.4					
<u>SOUTH AMERICA</u>																				
Argentina.....	52:	102:	117:	138:	138:	2,692:	2,674:	2,656:	2,656:	2,681:	2,051:	2,681:	2,681:	2,681:	2,681:	2,681:	2,681:	2,681:	2,681:	
Brazil.....	2,323:	4,290:	4,861:	4,700:	4,900:	1,287:	1,423:	1,443:	1,443:	1,383:	1,629:	2,989.1:	6,105.7:	7,015.2:	6,500.0:	7,000.0				
British Guiana.....	70:	97:	114:	120:	-:	2,289:	2,343:	2,175:	2,175:	2,250:	-:	160.2:	227.3:	248.0:	270.0:	-:				
Chile.....	13:	79:	58:	62:	70:	3,515:	2,578:	1,531:	1,531:	2,845:	3,143:	45.7:	203.7:	88.8:	176.4:	220.0				
Colombia.....	150:	300:	350:	400:	395:	943:	1,566:	1,518:	1,518:	1,625:	1,786:	141.4:	469.8:	531.4:	650.0:	705.5				
Ecuador.....	110:	237:	200:	180:	-:	1,327:	1,358:	1,278:	1,278:	-:	146.0:	321.8:	210.0:	230.0:	-:					
Paraguay.....	5:	14:	25:	35:	1,760:	2,043:	1,588:	1,920:	1,920:	-:	29.7:	48.0:	8.8:	28.6:	-:					
Peru.....	107:	120:	127:	142:	130:	1,950:	3,020:	3,589:	3,749:	3,231:	208.6:	362.4:	455.8:	532.4:	420.0					
Surinam.....	37:	41:	47:	48:	48:	2,081:	2,490:	2,555:	2,667:	77.0:	102.1:	112.4:	126.8:	128.0						
Uruguay.....	13:	29:	31:	35:	30:	2,992:	2,855:	2,616:	2,903:	3,307:	38.9:	82.8:	81.1:	101.6:	99.2					
Venezuela.....	2:	28:	40:	65:	70:	1,150:	1,200:	1,375:	1,385:	1,257:	2.3:	33.6:	55.0:	90.0:	88.0					
Total.....	2,903:	5,366:	6,003:	5,950:	6,177:	-:	-:	-:	-:	-:	3,984.1:	8,248.6:	9,193.5:	9,166.9						

AFRICA

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

In Europe, a continent usually having heavy net imports, 1952 production showed another increase in the steady postwar expansion of rice cultivation. The rice crop of France, though still relatively small, was more than 10 times as large as the 1945-49 average, while that of Greece was about 8 times as large. Greece formerly imported nearly all its requirements, most of which were obtained from the United States, but in 1952 that country's production was increased to approximately the point of being self-sufficient in rice. Spain and Portugal, 2 countries which imported rice until 1952, again have large crops, from which some rice is expected to be exported.

In the Western Hemisphere, the principal increase in production of importing countries is in Cuba. A preliminary estimate of 280 million pounds of rough rice is a gain of 50 million pounds compared with 1951, an increase of 157 million pounds over the postwar (1945-49) average, and 237 million pounds compared with the prewar average (1935-39) outturn. The production of Peru is not expected to be as large as the bumper crop of the preceding year.

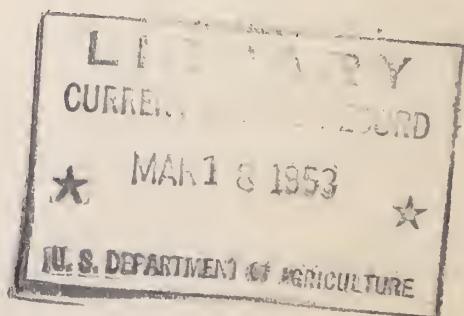
Exporting countries:

The 1952-53 production of the world's rice-exporting countries is estimated to have increased between 1,000 and 2,000 million pounds of rough rice as compared with the year before. The major gains in order of quantity are in Burma, Brazil, the United States, and Italy. Smaller crops than last year reportedly are being harvested in Thailand, Egypt, and Mexico.

In spite of this increase in rice production in the importing and exporting countries of the world, the export market continues strong and it appears that all rice available for export will find a ready market.

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This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service Reports.





# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 3-53

March 9, 1953

## LARGE PHILIPPINE RICE CROP REDUCES IMPORT NEEDS

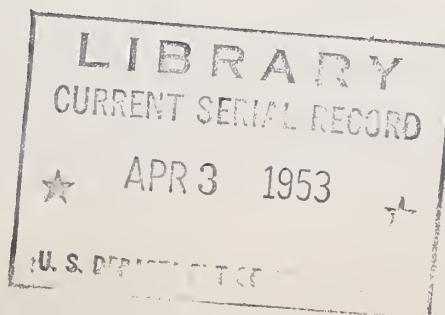
Rice will not be imported into the Philippines during the first half of 1953, and if the 1952-53 crop turns out to be as large as expected, little, if any, foreign rice will be shipped in during the second half of the year, according to the American Embassy, Manila. The reduction in import requirements is due entirely to an increase in this year's harvest. The rice crop is harvested mainly in December, and harvesting continues through the early months of the following year.

The National Rice and Corn Corporation (NARIC) is expected to reexport some of last year's rice imports at a financial loss. On February 24, 1953, the sale was approved by the Philippine President of 55 million pounds (25,000 metric tons) of rice for reexport. This rice was a part of the 139 million pounds (63,142 metric tons) imported in 1952.

The production of a larger rice crop also in 1951-52 than was forecast meant that some of the rice which was brought in to fill an anticipated deficit was no longer required. The shortage in rice which Government officials and many in the trade were expecting in 1952 was due to expected losses in the 1951-52 crop from damage of the rice stem borer. This loss was difficult to assess at the time the rice was purchased, and it proved to be considerably overestimated.

The 1952-53 rice crop of the Philippines is estimated by the Philippine Bureau of Agricultural Extension at 6,717,6 million pounds of rough rice (4,700 million pounds milled), an increase of 478.9 million pounds (335 million pounds) as compared with the year before. The crop estimates of that organization for 1951-52 and 1952-53 are computed on a different basis and are at a moderately higher level than those of previous years. Figures for earlier years will not be strictly comparable until a revision now being made of the postwar statistics is completed.

The increase in production this year is due to (1) favorable weather, (2) high prices to producers, (3) improvement of internal security, (4) increased effectiveness in the control of pests, and (5) assistance from the Mutual Security Agency.



With harvesting nearly completed, increases have been reported in all provinces, except one. Production dropped 14 percent in Central Luzon, even though plantings were extended. The decline was due to the infestation of the rice stem borer and lack of rain in the early months of the planting season. The set-back in that area, a contributor of one-fourth the island's output, is considered only temporary.

Philippine milled rice imports during 1952 came from 3 countries - Thailand, Burma, and the United States. All of the imports of 139 million pounds were landed during the second half of the year. Earlier plans had called for the importation of around 300 million pounds, but because the rice crop in 1951-52 was larger than expected, that was unnecessary.

PHILIPPINES: Milled rice imports, by country of origin,  
average 1935-39, annual 1948-52

Country of Origin	Average 1935-39	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
<u>Million pounds</u>						
United States.....:	1/	0	126	0	0	7
Burma.....:	0	9	43	0	0	0
Ecuador.....:	0	51	41	0	0	66
Egypt.....:	0	16	24	0	0	0
Indochina.....:	76	0	0	0	0	0
Mexico.....:	0	22	0	0	0	0
Thailand.....:	36	145	87	11	241	66
Other countries.....:	5	22	0	0	0	0
Total.....:	117	265	321	11	241	139

1/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Bureau of Census and Statistics and National Rice and Corn Corporation.

The NARIC in 1952 reportedly met with considerable difficulty in securing commitments for imports from foreign countries. A temporary embargo was placed on exports from Thailand early in the year and allocations of Burma's exportable supplies were difficult to obtain.

NARIC held three public bids and conducted intensive negotiations in 1952 before it was able to secure agreement with local importers for deliveries of 271 million pounds (123,000 metric tons) of rice. That organization secured an allocation of 33 million pounds (15,000 tons) from the Thai Government, which brought to 304 million pounds (138,000 tons) the total of expected arrivals. Despite assurances of NARIC to the contrary, it was believed at the time that some contracts might not be fulfilled because of continuing uncertainties in the sources of supply.

Even with the importation of less than one-half of that originally expected, however, the supply position changed from a problem of scarcity to one of over-supply. Sales of imported rice have continued to be slow, and of the total imports, around 65 million pounds (30,000 tons) remained unsold as of mid-January 1953. Consumers prefer the native varieties, which have continued to be adequate.

Philippine rice prices during 1952 registered contrasting trends. Consumer prices were lower and showed less fluctuation than in the preceding year, while prices to producers reached a slightly higher level. Consumer prices declined primarily because supplies were maintained throughout the year through increased production and adequate imports. Another reason for this decline was a drop in the prices of the island's major export commodities - copra, abaca, and tobacco - which reduced to some extent the purchasing power of the public. Also, NARIC reduced the retail price of imported rice to the lowest level in the postwar period.

Since the start of 1953, consumer prices have continued to move downward significantly. Milled rice Macan, second class (same grade as listed in the accompanying table on Wholesale prices) was selling wholesale in late January at \$7.67 per 100 pounds. That quotation is considerably lower than any recorded in the previous postwar low prices of 1951 and 1952.

PHILIPPINES: Milled rice, monthly opening wholesale prices of Macan, second class, at Manila, per 100 pounds, 1940, and 1948-52

Month	1940	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
January .....	2.29	9.42	10.53	8.00	9.52	8.40
February.....	2.29	10.12	10.63	7.80	8.20	9.42
March.....	2.28	9.42	11.04	7.72	8.48	9.42
April.....	2.30	12.35	11.04	7.59	10.23	9.50
May.....	2.30	10.93	11.04	7.39	10.23	9.70
June.....	2.28	11.74	11.24	7.80	10.83	10.02
July.....	2.33	12.66	11.24	7.90	11.24	10.15
August.....	2.33	13.18	11.44	8.00	11.44	10.23
September.....	2.34	Unquoted	11.24	8.81	11.44	10.43
October.....	2.34	"	10.23	9.42	11.44	9.82
November.....	2.32	"	10.23	9.82	9.94	9.82
December.....	2.28	"	9.42	9.82	9.82	8.20
Average.....	2.31	11.23	10.70	8.33	10.23	9.59

Bureau of Commerce.

The sharp decline in consumer prices of rice has brought considerable concern to Philippine rice producers who wish to secure Government intervention to halt the downward trend. The argument is that unless prices are maintained at attractive levels, growers will be discouraged from cultivating rice, thus thwarting the Government's efforts to make the Philippines self-sufficient in that cereal.

Prices to producers in 1952 showed less fluctuation than in the year before. The fact that they reached neither the high peak nor the low level of 1951 was unusual and contrary to the normal seasonal trend. The relatively high-price level in the last 2 months of 1952 is attributed to a large harvest in Central Luzon where late June rains delayed plantings.

Prices quoted are those of the Cabanatuan market in Central Luzon. In that city is one of the main rice markets, and prices there are believed to be fairly representative of the central area. Prices outside that area generally are lower, especially in Mindanao and the Cagayan Valley in north Luzon.

PHILIPPINES: Rough rice, prices to producers, monthly average,  
Ordinario at Cabanatuan, per 100 pounds,  
1940, and 1948-52

Month	1940	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
January.....	1.32	4.81	6.70	5.68	4.83	5.29
February.....	1.36	5.39	6.70	5.67	4.88	6.05
March.....	1.35	5.97	6.70	5.20	5.31	5.54
April.....	1.36	7.18	6.70	4.76	6.10	5.80
May.....	1.35	7.13	6.70	4.64	6.55	5.95
June.....	1.31	7.66	6.70	4.89	6.57	5.95
July.....	1.34	8.41	6.70	4.96	7.06	6.32
August.....	1.37	8.57	6.70	4.99	6.75	6.30
September.....	1.37	-	6.70	5.44	6.90	6.78
October.....	1.38	-	6.70	5.96	6.57	6.53
November.....	1.18	-	6.70	5.65	6.22	6.53
December.....	1.30	6.69	4.87	4.79	5.29	6.43
Average.....	1.33	7.53	6.55	5.22	6.09	6.12

1/ Monthly opening prices.

Bureau of Commerce.



# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 4-53

March 23, 1953

## JAPANESE RICE POSITION

Rice supplies available for consumption in Japan during 1953 will be only slightly larger than in the year before, according to a report from the American Embassy, Tokyo. The fall rice crop of 1952 exceeded the preceding harvest, and rice imports are expected to continue at about the same rate.

Japan's 1952 rice harvest is estimated at 27,188.5 million pounds of rough rice (19,032 million pounds milled), or an increase of 2,414.2 million pounds (1,690 million pounds milled) compared with 24,774.3 million pounds (17,342 million pounds) in 1951. The crop there is harvested from August to November.

Weather early in the 1952 rice season was favorable for planting throughout Japan, and transplanting was normal, with adequate rainfall. Some typhoon damage occurred late in June in middle and west Japan, and heavy rains early in July caused flooding on the seacoast. In most regions, however, growth generally was favorable, and rather high yields were harvested.

The original goal for milled rice imports into Japan during the fiscal year 1953 (April 1, 1953-March 31, 1954) was 1,010,000 metric tons (2,227 million pounds), as announced by the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture. This goal reportedly later was reduced to around 960,000 metric tons (2,116 million pounds).

Sources of desired procurement during the 1953 fiscal year, as indicated in the original import program of 1,010,000 tons, were United States, 300,000 metric tons (661 million pounds); Thailand, 300,000 tons (661 million pounds); Burma, 150,000 tons (331 million pounds); Italy, 60,000 tons (132 million pounds); Spain, 60,000 tons (132 million pounds); Taiwan, 60,000 tons (132 million pounds), and other countries 80,000 tons (176 million pounds).

The goal during the Japanese fiscal year 1952 of 1,000,000 metric tons (2,204 million pounds) of rice imports was virtually reached. Actual imports totaled 996,773 metric tons (2,197 million pounds). Procurement of that quantity was difficult because of the severe competition

for the limited export supplies of Burma and Thailand. The Government emphasizes the procurement of maximum imports, and during 1952 premium prices at times were paid. For example, late in 1952 Japan made a contract with Formosa (Taiwan) for 40,000 metric tons (88,184,000 pounds) at \$252 per ton (\$11.43 per 100 pounds), reportedly the highest price yet paid for imported rice.

Table I. JAPAN: Imports of milled rice, by country of origin, 1952

Country of origin	January -	April -	July -	October -	Total
	March	June	September	December	
	: Million : pounds				
Burma.....	49	86	45	138	318
Thailand.....	263	113	189	122	687
Taiwan.....	20	12	23	58	113
Pakistan.....	0	0	0	16	16
Iran.....	0	0	0	11	11
Ceylon 1/.....	3	22	0	0	25
United States...	170	125	169	137	601
Mexico.....	0	0	0	4	4
Nicaragua.....	0	0	0	3	3
Ecuador.....	0	21	21	15	57
Uruguay.....	0	0	7	7	14
Italy.....	106	120	8	5	239
Spain.....	0	21	61	22	104
Portugal.....	0	0	0	5	5
Total.....	611	520	523	543	2,197

1/ Repayment of loan made by Japan to Ceylon in late 1951. Ceylon repaid with rice purchased in the United States.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Japan.

Rice imports into Japan have increased steadily since 1949. The 2,197 million pounds imported in 1952 were 231 million pounds larger than in 1951; 717 million pounds more than in 1950; and exceeded those of 1949 by approximately 1,900 million pounds. While Thailand and Burma have been sources of about the same volume, the yearly increases in imports have come mainly from countries outside of Asia.

Of those non-Asiatic countries, the United States is by far the largest supplier, followed by Italy, Spain, and Egypt, when weather in that country has been favorable for the production of a crop large enough to permit rice exports. New sources of supply have been found also in the last 2 years in such countries as Ecuador, Pakistan, Uruguay, Brazil, Iran, Portugal, Belgian Congo, Mexico, and Nicaragua.

Table II. JAPAN: Rice imports, by country of origin, 1952 with comparisons

Year	Average	1949				
	1935-39	July - 1/ December	1950	1951	1952	
	Million bounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	
Burma.....	2	88	320	362	316	
United States....	2/	1	113	91	601	
Taiwan.....	1,529	0	0	182	113	
Thailand.....	68	126	724	823	687	
Egypt.....	2/	0	54	458	2/	
Korea.....	2,644	3/	198	3/	0	
Italy.....	2/	0	0	19	240	
Spain.....	2/	0	0	0	104	
Others.....	2	0	71	31	4/	136
Total.....	4,245	215	1,480	1,966	2,197	

1/ Largely brown rice. 2/ If any, not separately reported. 3/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 4/ Includes 58 million pounds from Ecuador.

Compiled from official statistics.

The supply and utilization of Government rice obtained from collections and imports during the 1951-52 rice marketing year (November-October) are shown in the following table. These data include the official ration supplies only, as information on farm stocks is not available.

Table III. JAPAN: Supply and demand of rice for rationing, in brown rice equivalent, marketing years (November-October) 1951-52 and 1952-53

Supply and demand	Indigenous	Imported	Broken	Total
	Million	Million	Million	Million
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
<u>1951-52 (estimated)</u>				
Supply:				
Carry-over, Nov. 1, 1951	2,272	276	112	2,660
Collection and imports	8,406	2,088	120	10,614
Total.....	10,678	2,364	232	13,274
Demand:				
Home ration.....	8,183	2,004	7	10,194
Industrial use.....	256	40	136	432
Loss.....	47	120	1	168
Total.....	8,486	2,164	144	10,794
<u>1952-53 (planned)</u>				
Supply:				
Carry-over, Nov. 1, 1952	2,192	200	88	2,480
Collection and imports	9,094	2,265	93	11,452
Total.....	11,286	2,465	181	13,932
Demand:				
Home ration.....	8,349	2,188	22	10,758
Industrial use.....	331	22	77	430
Loss.....	175	52	2	229
Total.....	9,055	2,262	101	11,418
Carry-over Nov. 1, 1953	2,231	203	80	2,514

Source: Japanese Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Japan's average per capita consumption of rice during the 1951-52 marketing year reportedly was 243 pounds as compared with 240 pounds in 1950-51. This slight increase was due primarily to the availability of increased quantities of imports in 1952. The official rice ration averages 192 grams per person per day, with variations according to age groups. Rice is distributed in the rural, producing areas about 20 days per month, and it is rationed in the urban areas about 15 days per month.

The farmer is permitted to withhold rice sufficient for only the needs of his family. Urban consumers generally supplement their rations with blackmarket rice. In 1952, the proportion of rice purchased by the urban family in the blackmarket was reported at 29 percent, as compared with about 25 percent in 1951.

Table IV. JAPAN: Estimated blackmarket prices 1/ of milled rice, by months, 1952

Month	Rural villages 2/			Tokyo . . . . .		
	: Dollars per		: Yen per sho	: Dollars per		: Yen per sho
	100 pounds	Yen per sho		100 pounds	Yen per sho	
January.....	110	: 9.90	110	153	: 14.22	
February.....	104	: 9.36	104	151	: 13.59	
March.....	106	: 9.54	106	147	: 13.23	
April.....	108	: 9.72	108	145	: 13.05	
May.....	110	: 9.90	110	144	: 12.96	
June.....	114	: 10.26	114	141	: 12.69	
July.....	119	: 10.71	119	140	: 12.60	
August.....	123	: 11.07	123	141	: 12.69	
September.....	124	: 11.16	124	141	: 12.69	
October.....	119	: 10.71	119	139	: 12.51	
November.....	109	: 9.81	109	137	: 12.33	
December.....	-	: -	-	139	: 12.51	

1/ The legal price was 87 yen per sho (\$7.83 per 100 pounds). 2/ Based on a survey of 456 locations.

1 sho of milled rice = 3.08644 pounds; 360 yen = \$1.00.

Compiled from official sources.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
APR 23 1953

Based chiefly on the farm parity index, the official purchase price of the 1952 rice crop was set at 7,500 yen per koku (\$6.30 per 100 pounds) for third- or standard-grade brown rice. This was 7 percent higher than in 1951. To stimulate early rice deliveries, the Government paid premium prices for deliveries before specified dates.

Effective January 1, 1953, the official price of milled rice to consumers was raised from 87 yen per sho (\$7.83 per 100 pounds) to 95 yen per sho (\$8.55 per 100 pounds) for indigenous rice, and 81 yen per sho (\$7.29 per 100 pounds) for imported rice. The imported rice, which is considered inferior in quality, had been 77 yen per sho (\$6.93 per 100 pounds). Rice from the United States, Taiwan, Italy, Spain, and Portugal, however, is sold at the same price as indigenous rice because its quality is considered to be satisfactory.



# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 5-53

March 23, 1953

## THAILAND EXPORTS LESS RICE IN 1952

Rice exports from Thailand in 1952 are recorded at 3,148 million pounds, a decline of 8 percent as compared with a year earlier, according to a report from the American Embassy, Bangkok. Trade sources estimate exportable supplies from the 1952-53 crop for export in 1953 at from 3,000 to 3,200 million pounds. Carry-over 1952 rice stocks in Bangkok are estimated at 500 million pounds in terms of milled rice, thus making a total of 3,500 to 3,700 million pounds available for export from Thailand in 1953.

Table I. THAILAND: Rice (Milled) exports, by country of destination, 1952 with comparisons

Country of destination	1949	1950	1951	Govt. to Govt.	1952	
					Commercial	Total
(Million Pounds)						
Borneo.....	55:	67:	68:	44:	0:	44
Ceylon.....	192:	67:	0:	33:	3:	36
China.....	173:	58:	0:	0:	0:	0
Hong Kong.....	118:	295:	235:	218: <sup>1</sup> /	169:	387
India.....	692:	194:	507:	390:	1:	391
Indonesia.....	299:	210:	411:	125:	298:	423
Japan.....	181:	721:	782:	344:	313:	657
Malaya - Singapore....	575:	888:	801:	495: <sup>2</sup> /	351:	846
Philippines.....	83:	14:	243:	66:	0:	66
Korea.....	0:	66:	80:	86:	23:	109
Okinawa.....	3/	3/	3/	13:	8:	21
Saudi Arabia.....	3/	3/	3/	22:	0:	22
Other Near East.....	3/	3/	3/	2:	9:	11
New Guinea.....	3/	3/	3/	11:	0:	11
Africa.....	0:4/	112:	43:	0:	35:	35
Netherlands.....	52:	163:	133:	0:	63:	63
United Kingdom.....	58:	66:	1:	0:	7:	7
Belgium.....	3:	10:	38:	0:	11:	11
West Germany.....	3/	3/	1:	0:	5:	5
Damaged & C Grade....	138:	124:	3/	3/	3/	3/
Other countries.....	61:	215:	86:	0:	3:	3
Total.....	2,680:	3,270:	3,429:	1,849:	1,299:	3,148

<sup>1</sup>/ 93 million pounds classified as "in transit" shipments with ultimate destination unknown. <sup>2</sup>/ 98 million pounds classified as "in transit" shipments.

3/ If any, not separately classified. 4/ Near East and Africa.

Compiled from Embassy reports.

Table II. THAILAND: Rice (milled) exports, by country of destination, and by grade, 1952

Country of destination	Whole rice 5-10% : 100% :broken:	Broken 15% : broken:	A-1 Other :	C-1 and -2 :	Gluti- nous :	Broken Total nous :
(Million pounds)						
<u>Government rice</u>						
Malaya.....	-	156:	48:	-	-	-
Singapore.....	-	82:	1/	3:	-	359
Hong Kong.....	-	91:	44:	69:	-	135
Sarawak.....	-	14:	10:	-	1:	219
North Borneo.....	-	10:	5:	4:	-	29
Total.....	-	353:	220:	63:	-	15
<u>Commercial rice</u>						
Malaya.....	32:	-	-	-	22:	5:
Singapore.....	75:	-	-	-	78:	13:
Singapore in transit	-	43:	8:	5:	-	185
Hong Kong.....	25:	-	-	-	41:	-
Hong Kong in transit	-	24:	3:	3:	-	98
Total.....	132:	67:	11:	8:	141:	26:
<u>Government and Commercial</u>						
Indonesia via						
Singapore.....	7:	141:	39:	37:	21:	5:
Indonesia (direct).....	13:	62:	21:	67:	15:	68
India.....	1/	39:	16:	117:	219:	178
Japan.....	-	236:	93:	8:	71:	391
Korea.....	-	20:	13:	45:	21:	657
Philippines.....	-	12:	3:	38:	13:	109
Ceylon.....	-	6:	-	2:	28:	66
New Guinea.....	-	9:	3:	-	3:	36
Netherlands.....	8:	22:	1:	-	5:	11
Saudi Arabia.....	-	4:	6:	1:	3:	63
Other Near East.....	-	2:	6:	11:	10:	22
Africa.....	-	1:	-	-	-	11
United Kingdom.....	-	4:	-	-	-	7
West Germany.....	-	1:	-	-	-	5
Belgium.....	-	1:	-	-	-	11
Okinawa.....	-	7:	-	-	-	11
Other countries.....	-	1:	-	-	-	21
Total.....	28:	559:	209:	339:	409:	1,871
Total exports.....	160:	979:	440:	410:	634:	62:
1/ Less than 500,000 pounds.						2,148

Compiled from official statistics.

Fifty-nine percent of the 1952 exports were made under Government-to-Government contracts, and 41 percent were exported in commercial trade. The principal countries of destination were Malaya, Singapore, Japan, Indonesia, India, and Hong Kong. Exports were somewhat evenly divided in the 4 quarters of 1952, with 28 percent being exported in the first quarter, 23 percent in the second, 28 percent in the third, and 21 percent in the fourth quarter.

Table III. THAILAND: Rice exports, cumulative  
by month, 1949-52

Month	1949		1950		1951		1952	
	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:	Volume:
	per month	Cumulative month						
	Million pounds	Million pounds						
January....	226	-	144	-	264	-	313	-
February....	328	554	204	348	409	673	297	610
March.....	346	900	419	767	384	1,057	276	886
April.....	309	1,209	349	1,116	283	1,340	154	1,040
May.....	224	1,433	315	1,431	239	1,579	258	1,298
June.....	180	1,613	232	1,663	167	1,746	310	1,608
July.....	161	1,774	197	1,860	265	2,011	303	1,911
August....	96	1,870	262	2,122	331	2,342	239	2,150
September..	212	2,082	309	2,431	259	2,601	326	2,476
October....	77	2,159	297	2,728	266	2,867	243	2,719
November...	131	2,290	259	2,987	262	3,129	229	2,948
December...	390	2,680	283	3,270	300	3,429	201	3,149

Compiled from official statistics.

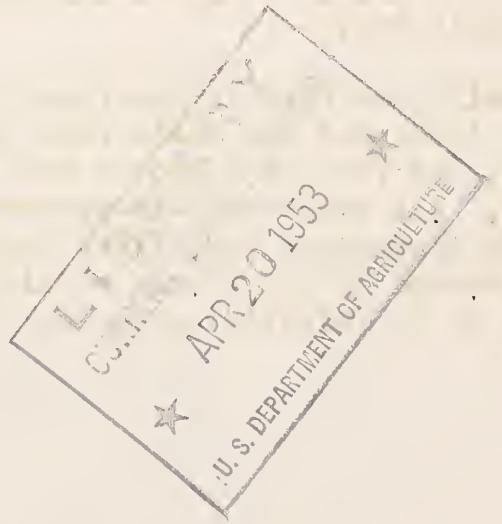
Official prices, ex-mill, of rice in government-to-government trade on October 22, 1952, were increased for white rice \$14.00 per metric ton (64 cents per 100 pounds), and for white broken rice \$11.20 per metric ton (51 cents per 100 pounds). All government-to-government sales in 1953 will be on an f.o.b. basis with designated Thai firms handling the mill-to-ship arrangements. An f.o.b. charge of \$20.00 per metric tons (91 cents per 100 pounds) will be added to the official price on each shipment sold under Government contracts.

Continued -

Table IV. THAILAND: Current (March, 1953) export prices of rice, by grade.

Grade	Government official ex-mill	Government-to-Government	Commercial f.o.b. Bangkok
	Dollars per metric ton	Dollars per metric ton	Dollars per metric ton
	100 pounds	100 pounds	100 pounds
100% whole rice:	156.80:	7.11:	- : 243.80: 11.06
5% broken....:	154.70:	7.02:	174.70: 7.92: 235.70: 10.69
10% broken....:	150.50:	6.83:	170.50: 7.73: 231.50: 10.50
15% broken....:	146.30:	6.64:	166.30: 7.54: 227.30: 10.31
20% broken....:	142.10:	6.45:	162.10: 7.35: 223.10: 10.12
25% broken....:	138.90:	6.30:	158.90: 7.21: 219.90: 9.97
35% broken....:	135.80:	6.16:	155.80: 7.07: 216.80: 9.83
Broken rice:	:	:	:
A1 Super.....:	108.92:	4.94:	128.92: 5.85: 172.00: 7.80
A1 Special....:	105.00:	4.76:	125.00: 5.67: 168.08: 7.62
A1 Ordinary...:	100.80:	4.57:	120.80: 5.48: 163.88: 7.43
C1 Special....:	79.52:	3.61:	- : 111.30: 5.05
C1 Ordinary....:	76.72:	3.48:	- : 108.65: 4.93
C3 Special....:	57.12:	2.59:	- : 98.05: 4.45
C3 Ordinary...:	55.72:	2.53:	- : 96.72: 4.39

Note: White rice 5% to 35% and A1 brokens based on Inducement Permits, which are still at ex-mill prices.





# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

APR 20 1953

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FR 6-53

March 30, 1953

## CYYLON IMPORTS RICE FROM NEW SOURCES

Rice imports into Ceylon in 1952 of 895 million pounds were slightly larger than the 887 million pounds of the year before. Ceylon obtained as much as two-fifths, or 364 million pounds, of that volume from countries other than the traditional sources of supply. Historically, Burma and Thailand have been the main countries from which Ceylon has imported rice.

The United States was the principal alternate source, followed by China, Indochina, and Latin American countries. In contrast with 94 percent of the total being imported from Burma in 1951, last year only 56 percent of the total came from that country, and a relatively small quantity was imported from Thailand. The decline in imports from those countries was due to the initiation of their policy early in 1952 of not allocating all the surpluses from the 1951-52 rice crops to the importing countries as they had in other postwar years, thus limiting export availabilities.

Table I. CEYLON: Rice imports by country of origin,  
average 1935-39, annual 1948-52

Country of Origin	Average	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
	1935-39	: Million pounds				
Burma.....	1/	985	674	610	897	831
Thailand.....		202	23	119	139	0
Indochina.....		23	0	0	0	63
Brazil.....	2/	39	0	0	0	0
Pakistan.....	2/	0	0	3/	56	13
China.....	2/	0	0	0	0	80
United States.....	2/	0	0	0	0	134
Egypt.....	0	181	111	62	0	0
Other countries in America.....	2/	0	0	0	0	22
Other countries.....	8	0:4	49	3/	0	52
Total.....	1,218	917	889	1,098	887	895

1/ Burma and British India. 2/ If any, included in other countries.

3/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 4/ From Italy.

Source: Ceylon Customs Returns.

The largest quantities from the customary sources - Burma, Thailand, and Indochina - were entered during the first half of 1952. Burma, the main supplier, was the only country from which rice was imported in every month of the year. Thirty-five percent of the imports from that source came in during the first quarter; 26 percent in the second quarter; 23 percent in the third quarter, and 16 percent in the fourth quarter. Nearly all of the imports from Indochina and Thailand were entered in the first half of 1952.

On the other hand, rice was first imported from the United States in June, followed by entries in July and August. These were followed by a relatively small quantity in September, and none in October and November; then the largest volume from the United States was imported in December. All of the imports from China of 80 million pounds were entered during November and December of 1952.

Table II. CEYLON: Rice imports. by country, by month, 1952 1/

Month and quarter	Burma	Indo-china	Thailand	United States	Other countries	Total
	:Million pounds	:Million pounds	:Million pounds	:Million pounds	:Million pounds	
January.....	21.9:	5.2:	13.4:	0:2/	12.5:	53.0
February.....	73.0:	7.1:	10.2:	0:	15.7:	106.0
March.....	77.9:	3.3:	0:	0:	0.3:	81.5
First quarter.....	172.8:	15.6:	23.6:	0:	28.5:	240.5
April.....	22.4:	7.8:	3.6:	0:3/	24.7:	58.5
May.....	50.1:	11.7:	6.6:	0:	4/:	68.4
June.....	58.5:	11.0:	0.4:	39.0:	4/:	108.9
Second quarter.....	131.0:	30.5:	10.6:	39.0:	24.7:	235.8
July.....	20.2:	0:	0:	20.0:	0:	40.2
August.....	39.6:	0:	0:	14.3:3/	11.5:	65.4
September.....	53.3:	0:	0:	0.9:	4/:	54.2
Third quarter.....	113.1:	0:	0:	35.2:	11.5:	159.8
October.....	23.3:	0:	0:	0:	0:	23.3
November.....	18.3:	16.8:	0:	0:5/	62.5:	97.6
December.....	38.4:	0:	0:	59.6:6/	39.8:	137.8
Fourth quarter.....	80.0:	16.8:	0:	59.6:	102.3:	258.7
Total 1952.....	496.9:	62.9:	34.2:	133.8:	167.0:	894.8

1/ Preliminary. 2/ From Pakistan. 3/ Listed as from "Other foreign countries in Asia." 4/ Less than 50,000 pounds. 5/ 40.2 Million pounds from China, and 21.5 million from "Other foreign countries in America."

6/ From China.

Source: Ceylon Customs Returns.

Ceylon in postwar years has imported an average of approximately 400,000 long tons (900 million pounds) of rice annually. In 1953, more than two-thirds of that amount, or 270,000 tons (605 million pounds), are to be secured under a long-term trade agreement with Red China in exchange for rubber and other commodities.

Allocations granted to Ceylon by Burma so far for the first half of 1953 are 60,000 tons (134 million pounds) on a Government-to-Government basis, and 30,000 tons (67 million pounds) in private trade. The Ceylonese Government is also negotiating with Thailand for the purchase of 50,000 tons (112 million pounds) of rice.

The price of rice allocated from Burma for the first 6 months of 1953 reportedly will be around £ 60 per long ton (\$7.50 per 100 pounds) as compared with £ 50 and £ 55 per ton (\$6.25 and \$6.88 per 100 pounds) during the first and second semesters of 1952, respectively. The price of rice from China under the long-term agreement is fixed at £ 54 per ton (\$6.75 per 100 pounds).

The average c. & f. price of all imported rice during the last quarter of 1952, as calculated from the Ceylon Customs Returns, was rupees 841.47 per long ton (\$7.89 per 100 pounds). The average price of rice from Burma was Rs. 790.08 per long ton (\$7.41 per 100 pounds), and that from China Rs. 772.19 per long ton (\$7.24 per 100 pounds), as compared with Rs. 924.11 per long ton (\$8.66 per 100 pounds) from the United States.

There were no wholesale or retail sales of imported, unrationed rice during the fourth quarter of 1952. The Government, however, continued to sell imported, rationed rice at the subsidized price of 2.6 cents per pound. This price has been in effect since December 1, 1950, when the subsidy on rice was raised, thus decreasing the price of rationed rice from Rs. 30 (3.15 cents per pound) to Rs. 0.25 per measure (2.6 cents per pound).

As a result of the extreme scarcity of rice that developed in Ceylon when rice imports were cut off during the early part of World War II, Ceylon began a program of Government rationing. The rice ration from 1942 to 1944 fluctuated between 1/2 measure and 1 measure per adult (1 and 2 pounds) per week. Between 1944 and September 1952, it varied between 1 and 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  measures (2 and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  pounds) per week. At that time, it was reduced to 1 measure (2 pounds) per adult per week.

The over-all cut of 1/4 a measure (1/2 pound) in September 1952 reduced the rations of specified categories of Ceylon's population as follows:

Type of Consumer	Ration per week						
	Prior to Sept. 1952		Effective Sept. 1952				
	Measures	Pounds	Measures	Pounds			
Manual worker.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	3	:	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	:	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Adult.....	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	:	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	1	:	2
Child.....	1	:	2	:	3/4	:	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Infant.....	1/2	:	1	:	1/4	:	1/2

If a population of 7,500,000 (1950 estimate) consumed an average of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 pounds of rice per person per week, the rate of consumption of rationed, subsidized rice would be in the neighborhood of 600 to 800 million pounds a year.

In contrast to the low price of subsidized rice, the retail price of domestically produced rice rose in the last quarter of 1952 from Rs. 1.10 per measure to Rs. 1.25 per measure (from 12 to 13 cents per pound). The rice shortage which caused this price increase was due to several factors (1) the over-all cut in the subsidized rice ration by  $\frac{1}{4}$  measure (one-half a pound) in September 1952, (2) the discontinuance of wholesale sales of imported rice to the trade effective October 3, 1952, and (3) a ban on the sale and transport of imported rice without a permit. The current (March 10, 1953) retail price of domestic rice is Rs. 1.20 to 1.50 per measure (13 to 16 cents per pound).

Domestic rice sold wholesale during each month of the fourth quarter of 1952 at from 85.00 to 90.00 rupees per 80 measures of rice (\$11.16 to \$11.81 per 100 pounds). The domestic rice crop supplies about one-third of domestic consumption requirements.

Because of the prevailing high prices of rice in the world markets, the Ceylonese Government is conducting a campaign not only to increase the domestic production of rice but also to reduce the consumption of that cereal in Ceylon. The services of the Food and Agriculture Organization have been obtained to help improve the domestic cultivation of rice, and the consumption of supplemental foods, particularly wheat flour, is being encouraged.

1 rupee = 21 cents  
1 measure = 2 pounds  
1 long ton = 2,240 pounds



# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 7-53

May 25, 1953

## THAILAND RICE POSITION IN FIRST QUARTER

First quarter developments in Thailand's rice trade of 1953 were highlighted by a decline in exports, limited Government contracts, continued large stocks at mills, large commercial purchases by South Korea, and noticeably increasing resistance on the part of foreign buyers to the current high export prices of rice.

### Exports

Rice exports during the first quarter totaled 700 million pounds, a decline of 21 percent from the corresponding period a year earlier. This lag in exports is attributed mainly to (1) a reduction in Government-to-Government contract shipments, which were 93,000 tons (205 million pounds) less than in the first quarter of 1952, and (2) a delay in the adoption of a firm Government export policy in 1953. January shipments in particular were far below the corresponding month in 1952.

Table I. THAILAND: Rice (milled) exports, by country of destination, 1952, and January-March 1953

Country of destination	1952			January-March 1953		
	Govt.	Commer-	Total	Govt.	Commer-	Total
	to	cial		to	cial	
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Borneo.....	44:	0:	44:	16:	0:	16
Ceylon.....	33:	3:	36:	0:	0:	0
Hong Kong.....	218: 1/	169:	387:	102: 2/	84:	186
India.....	390:	1:	391:	0:	2:	2
Indonesia.....	125:	298:	423:	0:	22:	22
Japan.....	344:	313:	657:	20:	108:	128
Malaya-Singapore..	495: 3/	351:	846:	171: 4/	80:	251
Philippines.....	66:	0:	66:	0:	0:	0
Korea.....	86:	23:	109:	0:	54:	54
Okinawa.....	13:	8:	21:	0:	0:	0

continued

Table I (continued)

	:	:	:	:	:	:	
Near East.....:	24:	9:	33:	0:	7:		7
New Guinea.....:	11:	0:	11:	0:	2:		2
Africa.....:	0:	35:	35:	0:	13:		13
Netherlands.....:	0:	63:	63:	0:	13:		13
United Kingdom....:	0:	7:	7:	0:	0:		0
Belgium.....:	0:	11:	11:	0:	4/ :		4/
Other countries...:	0:	8:	8:	1:	5:		6
Total.....:	1,849:	1,299:	3,148:5/	310:	390:		700

1/ 93 million pounds classified as "in transit." 2/ Includes "in transit" shipments of 41 million pounds, mostly to Japan. 3/ 98 million pounds classified as "in transit." 4/ Includes "in transit" shipments of 16 million pounds mostly, to Indonesia. 5/ Includes 45 million pounds of 1952 allocations shipped in January of 1953.

Compiled from Embassy reports.

Table II. THAILAND: Total rice exports, January-March, 1952 and 1953

Month	1952			1953			
	:	Metric	Million	:	Metric	Million	
	: tons	: pounds		: tons	: pounds		
January.....:	140,020	:	309	:	82,297	:	182
February.....:	134,872	:	297	:	101,751	:	224
March.....:	127,208	:	281	:	133,332	:	294
Total.....:	402,100	:	887	:	317,380	:	700

Source: Bangkok rice exporters.

Table III. THAILAND: Rice shipments under Government allocations, January-March and April 7, 1953

Country	Allocation			Shipments			Balance due	
	:	Metric	Million	:	Metric	Million	:	Metric: Million
	: tons	: pounds		: tons	: pounds		: tons : pounds	
British territories	320,000	:	706	:	111,220	:	245	: 208,781: 461
Japan.....:	215,000	:	474	:	9,015	:	20	: 205,985: 454
Korea (signed	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
April 7)...	50,000	:	110	:	-	:	-	: 50,000: 110
Total.....:	585,000	:	1,290	:	120,235	:	265	: 464,766: 1,025

Source: Bangkok rice exporters.

#### Allocations

At the end of the first quarter of 1953 only 535,000 tons (1,179 million pounds) out of a contemplated 800,000 tons (1,764 million pounds) had been

allocated on a Government-to-Government basis. These were limited to the British territories in Southeast Asia, 320,000 metric tons (705 million pounds), and to Japan, 215,000 tons (474 million pounds). On April 7, South Korea was allocated 50,000 tons (110 million pounds) for the remainder of the first half year, with further allocations to be negotiated after July 1.

The British territories' contract, signed February 2, guarantees delivery of 170,000 tons (375 million pounds) at the official prices prevailing at the end of 1952, with the remainder at prices subject to renegotiation.

India's original request for 200,000 tons (441 million pounds) was reduced to 160,000 tons (353 million pounds) with the agreement of the Indian representatives. Final approval, however, has been held up pending settlement of a 15,000-ton (33 million pounds) allocation of 1952, and of the terms of delivery on 1953 shipments.

Other requests for allocations on a Government-to-Government contract basis, and on which no known action has been taken, are as follows in metric tons (million pounds in parentheses): Indonesia, 200 (441); Taiwan (Formosa), 150 (331); Ryukyu Islands, 60 (132); Ceylon, 50 (110); Macao, 50 (110); Saudi Arabia, 40 (88), and Norway, 4 (9), making a total of 554 (1,221).

During February the Government Rice Office commenced buying rice for Government contracts under the new "5 to 1" inducement scheme. Under this system the millers receive a quota to export 1 ton of rice in commercial trade for every 5 tons they provide the Rice Office at controlled prices. In the first quarter the Rice Office purchased 210,000 tons (463 million pounds), but issued only 31,000 tons (68 million pounds) of inducement-quota rice.

#### Rice stocks

Rice stocks in Bangkok at the beginning of the year were at an unusually high level, according to market sources. Milled rice stocks on January 1 were estimated at 150,000 tons (331 million pounds) plus a paddy stock of 100,000 tons (220 million pounds). Stocks continued heavy throughout the quarter reportedly due to the Thai Government's hesitancy in allocating rice to importing nations.

#### Sales to South Korea

Of significance were the large commercial purchases of South Korea in late February and early March. A total of 85,000 metric tons (187 million pounds) are known to have been purchased, not including any portion of the Government allocation of 50,000 tons (110 million pounds).

This sudden demand for Thai rice is reported to have absorbed most of the outstanding commercial quotas and necessitated the issuance of special "non-inducement" quotas to "bonafide" exporters at a premium of \$35 a metric

ton (\$1.59 per 100 pounds). Actually, approximately 22,000 metric tons (49 million pounds) were shipped to South Korea in March, and the remainder is believed to have been exported in April. South Korean purchases in 1952 amounted to 39,000 tons (86 million pounds) on a Government-to-Government basis and 10,575 tons (23 million pounds) in commercial trade.

Prices

Well-informed trade sources report that resistance by importing countries to the prevailing high prices of Thailand rice is increasing and that this is causing much consternation on the part of millers and exporters. Complaints have been received also concerning the quality of recent shipments which in many cases, were badly infested.

Official Government-to-Government f.o.b., vessel prices prevailing since late October 1952, together with average nominal commercial prices during the first quarter of 1953, are shown in the following table:

Thailand: Rice export prices - f.o.b. vessel, Government-to-Government, and average commercial, first quarter, 1953

Quality	Government-to-Government		Commercial	
	(contract grades)		(Nominal)	
	Dollars per metric ton 1/	Dollars per 100 pounds	Dollars per metric ton	Dollars per 100 pounds
<u>Whole rice</u>				
100%	-	-	244.50	11.09
5% broken	174.70	7.92	233.00	10.57
10% broken	170.50	7.73	228.80	10.38
15% broken	166.30	7.54	224.60	10.19
20% broken	162.10	7.35	220.40	10.00
25% broken	158.90	7.21	217.20	9.85
35% broken	155.80	7.07	214.10	9.71
<u>Broken rice</u>				
A1 Supper	128.92	5.85	166.00	7.53
A1 Special	125.00	5.67	162.00	7.35
A1 Ordinary	120.80	5.48	158.00	7.17
C1 Special	-	-	110.00	4.99
C1 Ordinary	-	-	108.00	4.90
C3 Special	-	-	96.00	4.35
C3 Ordinary	-	-	94.00	4.26

1/ Includes \$20.00 f.o.b. charges.

First-quarter commercial rice prices for contract grades ranged between \$55 and \$62 per metric ton (\$2.49 to \$2.81 per 100 pounds) over the official Government-to-Government f.o.b. prices. In January and early February white rice, 5-percent broken, sold for around \$230 a metric ton (\$10.43 per 100 pounds). Prices increased slightly in late February as a result of the Government's announcement that no Government allocation would be made, or export

licenses issued, pending investigation of the damage to the harvested crop by unseasonal rains.

The trend of increasing prices received added impetus by the large purchases of commercial rice by South Korea which absorbed a large portion of the available export quotas. In the closing days of February, 5-percent rice was quoted in the vicinity of \$234 a ton (\$10.61 per 100 pounds) or about \$60,00 (\$2.72 per 100 pounds) over the official Government-to-Government f.o.b. price.

Prices continued at the same high level throughout March. On March 27 the export price of Thai rice reached an all-time high with contract grades (white rice) offered at \$62 to \$63 (\$2.81 to \$2.86 per 100 pounds) over Government contract prices. The new turnover business tax of 1 percent, which went into effect on March 27, attributed partly to the slight increase.

Resistance by foreign buyers to these high prices, however, reportedly forced commercial prices downward during April. Five-percent rice on April 25 had dropped to about \$232 a ton (\$10.52 per 100 pounds) or \$58 (\$2.63 per 100 pounds) above Government prices.

#### Outlook

In view of the depressed paddy prices and the credit position of a majority of the farmers, production of the 1953-54 rice crop is not expected to exceed the 1952-53 harvest. The present financial position of the farmers should not encourage them to increase their acreages.

Although the 1953 exports are not expected to drop below the 1952 volume, well-informed trade sources predict a gradual decline in the demand for Thai rice. The complete loss of the Philippine market and the attitude of the Ceylonese and Indian Governments are pointed out as examples of a possible future downward trend. Also, recent shipments of low-quality, infested rice, which have resulted in claims, may have some damaging effect on the reputation of Thailand rice exports.

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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 8-53

June 8, 1953

## RECORD WORLD RICE CROP CONFIRMED

World rice production in 1952-53 (August-July) was the largest on record 1/. The total rough rice crop is estimated at 354,100 million pounds, 4 percent larger than the previous postwar high of 342,000 million pounds in 1948-49, and 5 percent more than the 337,700 million pounds of 1951-52, according to the third estimate of the Foreign Agricultural Service. The 1948-49 production was about the same size as the largest world harvests before World War II.

In terms of milled rice (rough rice converted to terms of milled at 70 percent), world production in 1952-53 is estimated at 124 million short tons compared with 120 million tons in 1948-49, and 118 million tons in 1951-52.

Rice acreage was increased wherever this season's weather permitted throughout the areas of the world in which soils and climate are adaptable to the cultivation of the cereal. Moreover, weather in 1952-53 was favorable in many countries, in contrast with the previous 2 years when adverse weather restricted output.

By continent, the largest crop increases are in Asia, where 92 percent of the world's 1952-53 rice output was and is being harvested. Excluding China, that Continent's total output is estimated at 222 million pounds of rough rice (78 million short tons milled), a gain of 5 percent or 2.1 million tons milled over the preceding year. The principal increases in order of volume are noted in India, Japan, Pakistan, Burma, Indonesia, South Korea, the Philippines, Malaya, and Taiwan. Only in Thailand and Ceylon are crops smaller than those of a year earlier.

Total production in Asia's 3 major exporting countries - Burma, Thailand, and Indochina - is estimated at 40,000 million pounds of rough rice (14 million tons milled), or about the same as in 1951-52. The increase in the production of Burma was offset by a decline in Thailand, and Indochina's crop is believed to be about the same as a year earlier.

1/ A review of the 1952 world trade in rice, together with a discussion on world trade prospects for the current year, is scheduled for publication in *Foreign Crops and Markets*, June 22, 1953.

RICE (rough): Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, averages 1935-36/39-40 and 1943-46/49-50, annual 1950-51 to 1952-53 1/2

ASIA (Continued)	
Philippine Republic	4,852;
South Korea	3,838;
Taiwan (Formosa)	1,507;
Thailand	7,088;
Total	201,950;
:	:
SOUTH AMERICA	
Argentina	52;
Brazil	4,290;
British Guiana	97;
Chile	13;
Colombia	150;
Ecuador	110;
Paraguay	5;
Peru	107;
Surinam	37;
Uruguay	13;
Venezuela	2;
Total	2,903;
:	:
AFRICA	
Egypt	463;
French Morocco	-
French West Africa	1,562;
Ivory Coast	1,207;
Sierra Leone	346;
Total	4,395;
:	:
OCEANIA	
Australia	23;
Fiji	10;
Total	40;
:	:
World total	211,648;

Philipine Republic	4,963;
South Korea	2,676;
Taiwan (Formosa)	1,638;
Thailand	10,212;
Total	206,656;
:	:
ASIA (Continued)	
Philippines	4,935;
South Korea	2,691;
Taiwan (Formosa)	1,898;
Thailand	13,083;
Total	217,339;
:	:
SOUTH AMERICA	
Argentina	102;
Brazil	4,861;
British Guiana	114;
Chile	79;
Colombia	300;
Ecuador	237;
Paraguay	14;
Peru	120;
Surinam	41;
Uruguay	29;
Venezuela	28;
Total	5,266;
:	:
AFRICA	
Egypt	732;
French Morocco	1;
French West Africa	1,431;
Ivory Coast	1,614;
Sierra Leone	346;
Total	7,189;
:	:
OCEANIA	
Australia	31;
Fiji	29;
Total	95;
:	:
World total	222,741;

1/ Crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere countries during the latter part of the year, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Southern Hemisphere countries during the first part of the following year. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Average 1931-37. 4/ The area formerly known as French Indochina is now comprised of the Kingdom of Laos, the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the State of Vietnam. 5/ Average 1936-37 to 1939-40. 6/ Korea. In the 1935-39 period, production in South Korea averaged about 6,750 million pounds annually.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

In Europe, production increased again in all countries where rice is grown, with the exception of Portugal. That Continent's total production in 1952 of 3,700 million pounds of rough rice (1.3 million tons milled) compares with 3,300 million pounds (1.2 million tons) in the preceding year, and an average of 2,400 million pounds (800,000 tons) before World War II. Italy, France, Greece, and Spain again harvested the largest crops on record. Portugal planted a record acreage in rice, but unfavorable weather reduced the production below that of last year.

The total harvest of the Western Hemisphere is estimated at 15,700 million pounds of rough rice (5.5 million tons milled), which is 4 percent of the 1952-53 world crop. Rice acreage planted in both North America and South America shows a further expansion from the acreage of a year earlier, the rice areas there having increased steadily since the early years of World War II. These continents now are planting more than double the prewar acreage in rice and are harvesting more than twice the volume prior to World War II.

In North America, favorable weather in most of the countries resulted in increases in per-acre yields. The largest gain in production was in the United States, where the acreage increased only slightly, and per-acre yields were the highest on record. The next largest increases in order of volume were in Cuba, Panama, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. Lack of rainfall during the planting season reduced Mexico's acreage planted in rice, and although larger yields were harvested than in the year before, production was smaller.

Rice acreages increased in all the countries of South America, with the exception of Peru, where floods at the time of planting prevented some land from being planted in rice. The total production of South America, however, is only slightly larger than last year, primarily because of a poor crop in Brazil. In several countries weather was beneficial for the production of good rice crops, particularly Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, and Uruguay. In Brazil, however, which produces about two-thirds of South America's crop, dry weather in the northeastern and central States reduced the yield per acre. Although Brazil's acreage was increased in 1952-53, the harvest is estimated at about the same as in 1951-52.

Drought in some areas of Africa reduced rice production below that of last year, though the rice acreage harvested in 1952-53 is believed to be about the same as a year earlier. Lack of water in Egypt during planting was responsible for a sharp drop in rice acreage, even below the reduced acreage of the preceding year. Per-acre yields in Egypt were below average, and that country harvested the smallest rice crop since 1937.

Growing conditions were favorable for the production of a good crop in Australia, and rice acreage and production exceeded that of a year earlier, but were not so large as in 1950-51.

(Note: For previous world rice crop estimates of 1952-53, see "World Rice Crop Forecast at Record Level," (first estimate), and "World Rice Growers Produce Record Crop," (second estimate), Foreign Crops and Markets, Nov. 10, 1952, and March 2, 1953.)



# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 9-53

June 22, 1953

## VOLUME OF WORLD RICE EXPORTS UNCHANGED IN 1952; SURPLUS FOR EXPORT LARGER THIS YEAR

International trade in rice in 1952 continued approximately at the same level as in the year before, according to the Foreign Agricultural Service. Total exports, including reexports, of 11,050 million pounds in terms of milled rice compare with 11,075 million pounds in 1951, the postwar high, and the average of 20,000 million pounds in the prewar (1936-40) period. Exportable supplies available during 1953 are estimated at a total 4 percent larger than exports in 1952.

Exporting countries: A feature of the 1952 world trade in rice was an increase in the number of countries coming into the market as exporters. This trend occurred in most areas of the world outside of Asia and is expected to continue in 1953.

The reduction in the 1952 exports of the surplus countries of Asia was offset by a sharp increase in shipments from North America, and also by a gain in exports from countries in Europe and South America. Rice exports from Africa, primarily Egypt, were markedly below those of 1951, and Australia exported less rice than in the year before.

Sixty-eight percent of the world's rice exports were from countries in Asia. Four-fifths of these, or nearly 60 percent of the world total, were from the "Rice Bowl" - Burma, Thailand, and Indochina - whose exports totaled only 6,570 million pounds as compared with 6,950 million pounds in the year before. Though exports were larger in Burma, they declined in Thailand and Indochina. In contrast with prewar years, Burma's exports were 45 percent of the prewar average, Thailand's were 8 percent larger, and Indochina's were only 15 percent of those exported before World War II.

Rice exports from China in 1952 are estimated in the neighborhood of 400 million pounds, of which approximately 80 percent went to India and 20 percent to Ceylon. These were substantially larger than in 1951, while Taiwan's (Formosa) rice shipments were at about the same level. Available information indicates exports from Iran were substantially less in 1952 than in the year before.

Rice (in terms of milled): International trade, averages 1936-40 and  
1946-50, annual 1951 and 1952

Continent and country	Average 1936-40			Average 1946-50			1951 1/			1952 1/		
	Exports 1,000 pounds	Imports 1,000 pounds										
<b>NORTH AMERICA:</b>												
British Honduras.....	-	2,764:	-	1,026:	2,644:	-	2,995:	-	8,885:	-	53,429	
Canada.....	2,525:	50,958:	50,053:	525:	42,747:	25,000:	92,540:	44:	-	-	-	
Costa Rica.....	0:	3:	3:	3,598:	1,939:	253:	4:	0:	64:	0:	507	
El Salvador.....	2,641:	75:	279:	1,08:	4,095:	4,095:	2,680:	0:	0:	0:	92	
Guatemala.....	2/	1:	2,591:	2,293:	856:	33:	-	85:	85:	85:	5	
Honduras 2/.....	18,555:	347:	47,313:	1,561:	1,768:	354:	-	11:	4,412:	-	58	
Mexico.....	150:	518:	10,643:	2/	18,403:	-	-	12,059:	-	-	-	
Nicaragua.....	-	13,398:	3:	6,762:	6,762:	0:	7,644:	-	-	-	6,881	
Panama Republic.....	-	20,534:	962,169:	3,170:	1,081,576:	75,743:	75,743:	1,743,542:	-	-	20,261	
United States.....	235,206:	3,809:	-	2,459:	-	-	3,742:	-	-	-	-	
Bahamas.....	-	20,675:	-	16,348:	-	-	17,637:	-	-	-	-	
Barbados.....	-	444,611:	1:	540,795:	-	-	640,000:	-	-	-	473,502	
Cuba.....	60:	7,989:	2,187:	1,776:	5:	5:	2,572:	1,058:	-	-	-	
Dominican Republic.....	165:	15,467:	-	12,165:	-	-	11,909:	-	4/	16,010	-	
Guadeloupe.....	-	2,359:	824:	442:	3:	3:	195:	-	-	-	-	
Haiti 2/.....	1:	41,798:	-	16,491:	-	-	44,092:	-	-	-	-	
Jamaica.....	-	6,508:	-	5,288:	-	-	6,248:	-	-	-	6/	
Martinique.....	-	42,376:	-	26,831:	-	-	32,628:	-	-	-	4,813	
Trinidad and Tobago.....	-	686,313:	1,031,875:	692,827:	1,131,590:	-	950,725:	1,770,605:	-	-	-	
Total 7/.....	259,775:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>EUROPE:</b>												
Austria.....	8/	5,8/	62,366:	7:	9,735:	-	-	46,481:	-	-	50,279	
Belgium.....	29,249:	140,798:	603:	47,254:	26,215:	108,733:	14,804:	-	-	-	50,234	
Denmark.....	202:	19,232:	0:	2,030:	6:	8,641:	-	-	-	-	18,292	
Finland.....	182:	31,963:	0:	3,441:	0:	15,713:	-	-	-	-	21,889	
France.....	29,762:	1,191,191:	1,001:	78,731:	1,954:	171,775:	5,726:	-	-	-	69,281	
Germany.....	38,288:	483,566:	0:	88,422:	0:	193,717:	3,570:	-	-	-	129,118	
Greece.....	0:	63,719:	-	-	24,407:	-	-	49,843:	-	-	9,538	
Ireland.....	0:	7,909:	0:	3,113:	0:	5,702:	0:	-	-	-	5,807	
Italy.....	335,639:	1,400:	177,327:	745:	491,632:	-	-	27:	607,134:	-	2	
Netherlands.....	187,911:	378,363:	11,915:	52,742:	87,213:	169,494:	41,539:	-	-	-	62,337	
Norway.....	420:	11,372:	1:	3,296:	-	-	6,834:	-	-	-	-	
Portugal.....	186:	17,543:8/	5,468:	18,066:	410:	1,969:	37,478:	-	-	-	2,343	
Spain.....	8/	11,695:8/	81,733:	15,449:	1,448:	17,797:	122:	125,878:	-	-	4	
Sweden.....	115:	33,494:	82:	11,496:	106:	23,891:	-	-	-	-	12,416	
Switzerland.....	14:	58,594:	40:	47,191:	34:	32,954:	13,139:	-	-	-	25,664	
United Kingdom.....	12,202:	311,174:	2,510:	73,020:	-	158,100:	-	-	-	-	105,963	
Yugoslavia.....	8/	153:8/	47,168:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,142	
Western Europe.....	646,930:	2,949,678:	214,403:	472,870:	625,467:	1,006,683:	849,268:	582,309	-	-	-	
Other Europe.....	24,724:	273,647:	-	14,000:	-	24,500:	-	-	-	-	24,200	
Total 7/.....	670,754:	3,223,325:	214,403:	436,870:	625,467:	1,031,183:	849,268:	606,809	-	-	-	

Continued -

U.S.S.R. (Europe & Asia)...	8/	2,403	8/	94,300:
ASIA:				
Aden.....	42,015:	49,996:	5,600:	11,067:
Cyprus.....	-	4,158:	-	3,956:
Iran 2/.....	58,500:	1,252:	46,281:	46,076:
Iraq.....	13,029:	70:	5,201:	19,539:
Israel and Palestine.....	2,381:	41,020:	-	14,528:
Jordan.....	-	5,838:	-	11,243:
Lebanon.....	)	13:)	37,650:)	-
Syria.....	)	13:)	-	22,796:
Saudi Arabia.....	-	8/	128,806:	2,643:
British Borneo.....	-	-	-	44,239:
Burma.....	6,504,	221:	-	57,628:
Ceylon.....	7:	1,219,294:	2,147,120:	2,796,387:
China.....	26,840:	870,994:	1,812:	810,907:
Hong Kong.....	602,314:	1,075,402:	2,814:	501,306:
India 10/.....	622,218:	3,726,688:	17,240:	16,755:
Indochina.....	3,232,998:	11,519:	247,261:	1,244,174:
Japan 11/.....	12/	231,632: 12/4,122,395:	-	83:
Indonesia.....	73,737:	499,118:	1,458:	386,485:
Korea 11/.....	2,367,393:	72,735:	39,526:	433,462:
Malayan Federation.....	369,852:	1,746,239:	21,934:	50,782:
Philippine Islands.....	1,316:	130,886:	44,496:	851,765:
Portuguese India.....	62:	54,736:	-	237,105:
Ryukyu Islands.....	-	-	-	0:
Taiwan 11/.....	1,426,661:	8,321:	50,524:	22,355:
Thailand 11/.....	2,920,437:	-	1,920,389:	75,728:
Total 7/.....	18,515,160:	14,096,809:	4,593,058:	5,197,381:
SOUTH AMERICA:				
Argentina.....	467:	52,286:	2,919:	354:
Bolivia.....	0:	18,371:	0:	0:
Brazil.....	83,335:	0:	321,078:	23,854:
British Guiana.....	34,296:	5:	52,199:	363,219:
Chile.....	3:	24,107:	25,854:	-
Colombia.....	3:	29,614:	3,497:	68,251:
Ecuador.....	25,685:	4:	122,598:	3,803:
French Guiana.....	0:	2,692:	-	15,352:
Paraguay.....	0:	327:	227:	15,267:
Peru.....	51:	44,743:	-	1,636:
Surinam.....	10,654:	4:	9,251:	1,715:
Uruguay.....	3,775:	191:	12,266:	661:
Venezuela.....	0:	32,224:	-	220:
Total 7/.....	158,269:	205,268:	549,889:	91,889:

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North America ranked next as a supplier of rice. The pronounced gain in exports occurred in the United States, where shipments increased 61 percent, and in South America, exports increased in Brazil, Ecuador, and Uruguay. Argentina and Colombia, usually about self-sufficient in rice, exported important quantities in 1952.

Exports from Spain increased substantially in 1952, and Portugal for the first time exported a significant amount of rice.

Importing countries: While the total exports from Asia's surplus countries declined, imports into the deficit countries of that Continent increased substantially compared with the previous year. Japan again was the world's largest importer of rice, followed by Indonesia, India, Malaya, and Ceylon.

Rice imports declined in most of the countries of Europe, that Continent's total in 1952 being only 58 percent of the previous year's imports. Germany took the largest volume, followed by the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, Austria, and Belgium. Less rice was imported also in North America and South America.

World rice trade in 1953: Total exportable supplies of rice in 1953 in the world's surplus countries are estimated at about 4 percent larger than in 1952, provided Ceylon secures from China all the 600 million pounds under contract in the 1952 trade agreement between the two countries. Export supplies from Burma are considerably larger than last year, and in Thailand, because of the withholding of last year's crop for export at high prices, the carry-over stocks plus the 1952-53 crop will permit the exportation of a larger volume in 1953.

Heavy surpluses will again be available for export from the United States, Italy, and Ecuador, and rice will again be shipped from countries such as Spain, Madagascar, Iran, Iraq, Argentina, and Uruguay. Because of small crops it is expected that rice will not be exported from Egypt and Brazil in 1953.

World total 1,226,046: 12,326,485 : 7,036,978 : 6,853,936 : 11,075,014 : 11,051,616 : 10,256,523  
 Preliminary. 2/ Less than 500 pounds. 3/ July-June, 4/ January-October. 5/ October-September.  
 6/ January-September.

<sup>7</sup> Including countries not shown. <sup>8</sup> Less than 5-year average, <sup>9</sup> March 21-March 20, <sup>10</sup> April-March to 1940-41. Includes Pakistan to August 15, 1947. <sup>11</sup> Prewar shipments to Japan from the Japanese colonies, Korea and Taiwan, comprised the principal trade of the 3 islands. <sup>12</sup> November-October. <sup>13</sup> January-November.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments and reports of United States Foreign Service officers. Includes milled, broken, semimilled unconverted and rough rice in terms of milled. Exports include reexports.



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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 10-53

June 29, 1953

## WORLD EXPORTABLE RICE SUPPLIES INCREASE IN 1953

World rice supplies available for export during 1953 are estimated at around 5 percent larger than a year earlier, according to the Foreign Agricultural Service. Total supplies are estimated at 11,300 million pounds, excluding reexports, as compared with 10,700 million pounds exported in 1952.

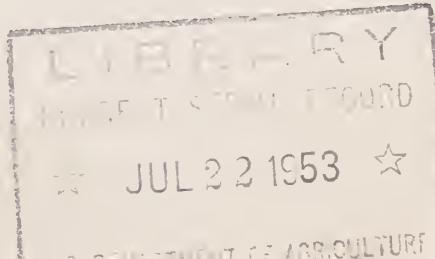
Heavy year-end stocks in the principal exporting area of Asia, together with increasing supplies from several newly surplus countries outside of Asia, are important factors in the gain in world export availabilities. Larger rice crops in 1952-53 accounted for increases in only a few of the surplus countries.

The tendency in 1953 will likely be to reduce carry-over supplies by the end of the year, on account of (1) a substantial carry-over of the 1951-52 crop, (2) a desire to dispose of the larger-than-average quantity of rice damaged this season in open storage, and (3) increased production in some importing countries of Asia in 1952-53.

The carry-over rice stocks of Thailand and Burma at the beginning of 1953 were larger than at any time since World War II, and exceeded considerably those in early 1952. The Korean war in 1950 had caused a sudden strong demand for rice in the 1951 world market, thus causing these countries to increase export commitments to a maximum, with the result that supplies at the beginning of 1952 were virtually exhausted.

At the outset of 1952, at a time when the demand in the importing countries of Asia was especially strong, Thailand and Burma reduced substantially the volume allocated on a Government-to-Government basis, apparently to obtain higher prices. As a result, considerable of the surpluses available at the beginning of 1952 were not exported, and carryover supplies were reestablished at the end of the year.

Reportedly there is increasing confidence among Asiatic buyers that world exportable supplies are coming into a better balance with minimum demands, and resistance is beginning to build up to the current high price of rice. The full force of this trend is now expected to become apparent in about October, when prospects for the 1953-54 harvest can be fully appraised.



RICE (in terms of milled): Exports from principal countries of supply, averages 1936-40 and 1946-50, annual 1951-52, and estimated exportable supplies, 1953

Continent and country	Average		1951	1952	1953	Export supplies 1/
	1936-40	1946-50				
	\$Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million : pounds	Million pounds
ASIA:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Burma.....	6,504	2,147	2,796	2,924	3,100-3,300	
Indochina.....	3,233	247	726	497	500	
Thailand.....	2,920	1,920	3,427	3,148	3,500-3,700	
Korea.....	2,367	2/	2/	0	0	
Taiwan(Formosa)....	1,427	51	227	232	50-100	
China.....	2/	2/	150	400	600	
Iran.....	59	46	46	30	70	
Estimated total....	16,560	4,417	7,841	7,266	8,000-8,400	
EUROPE:	:	:	:	:	:	
Italy.....	336	177	492	607	600-800	
Spain.....	2/	15	18	126	150-175	
Estimated total....	348	193	509	770	800-1,000	
WESTERN HEMISPHERE :	:	:	:	:	:	
NORTH AMERICA:	:	:	:	:	:	
Mexico.....	19	47	2	4	0	
Nicaragua.....	2/	11	18	12	15	
United States....	235	962	1,082	1,744	1,700	
Estimated total....	256	1,026	1,106	1,760	1,750	
SOUTH AMERICA:	:	:	:	:	:	
Argentina.....	2/	3	3/	17	20-65	
Brazil.....	83	321	363	475	0	
British Guiana....	34	52	68	62	65	
Ecuador.....	26	123	15	126	120-170	
Uruguay.....	4	12	23	28	30-40	
Surinam.....	11	9	8	13	10	
Estimated total....	158	546	482	737	250-350	
Total W. Hemisphere	414	1,572	1,588	2,497	2,000-2,100	
AFRICA:	:	:	:	:	:	
Egypt.....	279	548	692	35	0	
Madagascar.....	15	2/	3	85	85	
Estimated total....	310	568	708	135	100	
Australia.....	29	63	70	45	70	
WORLD TOTAL.....	17,661	6,820	10,716	10,713	11,000-11,700	
1/ Preliminary. 2/ Imports exceeded exports. 3/ Less than 500,000 pounds.						

Prepared on the basis of official statistics and current crop and trade information.

Exporting countries: Burma's record postwar harvest of 1952-53 plus an important carry-over from the old crop is expected to result in shipments during 1953 significantly above those of recent years. Exportable supplies are estimated at around 3,300 million pounds in terms of milled. Even though the demand for Burmese rice in some countries may be less than in 1952, it appears likely that it will be strong enough to maintain shipments at prices as high as those in 1952 until the size of the 1953-54 surplus is determined.

It is the custom for large quantities of rough rice in Burma to be stored in the open after harvest in November, through the dry season, which normally ends toward the middle of May. Usually little damage occurs to the stored rice, and milling is completed before the beginning of the monsoon. Because of heavy rains in February of this year, damage to rough rice was heavier than usual, and as a result, the quality of the milled rice available for export is below even the relatively poor quality of that exported in other postwar years. Most of this damage did not result in a total loss, but rather it produced an off-color, yellow milled product.

In Thailand, the 1952-53 harvest was smaller than in the year before, but sizable carry-over supplies from the old crop were available at the beginning of 1953, in contrast with the previous year when the year-end stocks were virtually exhausted.

Exports from Taiwan (Formosa) are expected to be reduced sharply in 1953. An unexpected shortage in rice developed in that country during the first half of 1953, reportedly because of the withholding of rough rice stocks by producers. Some rice has been imported on a loan basis from Japan, but a like quantity will be returned later in the year. Supplies are expected to return to normal at the end of the year at the time the November crop is marketed. The quantity that Japan expected at the beginning of the year to be imported from Taiwan during 1953 was around 130 million pounds, of which a part has already been imported.

Good crops were harvested in Iran in the fall of 1952, and exportable supplies in 1953 should be substantially larger than last year's exports.

Record supplies in Italy are available for export in 1953, and Spain's surplus is larger than the record of the late 1930's before rice production was reduced by the Spanish Civil War. Greece in 1952 not only increased rice production to meet domestic needs, but also has available for export in 1953 around 40 million pounds of rice. According to information from Japan, a Japanese company has contracted for 11 million pounds of rice from Turkey for shipment in June and July. This is a short-grain rice similar in size and taste to the Japanese type.

In contrast with substantially larger surpluses for export in 1953 in the countries of Asia and Europe, total export availabilities in the Western Hemisphere are expected to show a substantial reduction compared with 1952.

This is due primarily to drought conditions in parts of Brazil, where a poor crop is expected to be only about sufficient for domestic consumption. In all the other South American countries, exportable supplies of rice are as large or larger than last year.

Excellent crops are being harvested in Ecuador and Peru, and Argentina produced another record crop this season. Rice exports from the United States are expected to be at about the same rate as in 1952.

Import requirements: World demand for rice in 1953 has not been so keen as in the first half of 1952, when the withholding of supplies in Thailand and Burma for higher prices set up a highly competitive market for availabilities in the surplus countries outside of Asia. The United States, Italy, Brazil, Ecuador, Spain and lesser exporting countries found a ready market for all available supplies.

The demand for imported rice was particularly urgent in Ceylon, which normally has secured rice supplies from Thailand and Burma at the beginning of each year. Late in 1952, Ceylon entered into an agreement with China to secure 600 million pounds of rice annually at relatively low prices in exchange for rubber, thus reducing the demand from the other exporting countries by that amount.

Planned imports into Japan are at about the same rate as in 1952, and those of Malaya probably will not show a significant change. Import requirements of rice in Korea are expected to continue at a high level, but Indonesia will require fewer rice imports in 1953. A new feature in that country's imports of 1952, as has been true in Japan since it began its postwar importation of rice in 1950, was the receipt of rice from several new non-Asiatic sources. These included Brazil, the United States, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and Argentina.

Rice imports into the Philippines are not needed this year, in contrast with last year's imports of 139 million pounds. That country produced a crop sufficient for domestic consumption, and has scheduled for reexportation around 55 million pounds of 1952 imports.

Due to continued expansion in rice production in the countries of South America and Central America, import requirements in those areas continue to decline. Larger harvests now not only supply domestic needs in virtually all of the South American countries that were dependent on rice imports a decade ago, but also furnish sizable amounts for export. From time to time increasing quantities from these countries are being made available for export, especially Argentina, Colombia, and Peru.

Venezuela may be self-sufficient in rice in 1954, as a result of a further expansion in the acreage planted in the spring of 1953. Its rice import requirements in 1953 are expected to be held to at least the reduced level of last year. Plans in Cuba are for another substantial increase in rice production, and in certain areas of Central America, programs reportedly are under way for increases in production with a view to exporting rice.

The demand for rice in the countries of Europe does not appear to be returning to anywhere near the prewar (1936-40) level (for European Rice imports in 1952, see Foreign Crops and Markets, June 22, 1953). Rather than showing an increase in 1952, imports declined about 40 percent below those of 1951, and were only about one-fifth of prewar average imports. Rice imports into Europe may have been detracted by the strong demand in the deficit countries of Asia, and to the inability of securing rice readily from the exporting countries of the world.--By L. Thelma Jillahan, based in part on U. S. Foreign Service reports.





# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 11-53

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

August 17, 1953

## CUBAN RICE IMPORT QUOTA OF 1953-54

Cuba's preliminary rice import quota for the 1953-54 (July-June) quota year was established by the Cuban Government at 4,640,000 Spanish quintals (471 million pounds) and announced in Decree No. 1778 of July 1, 1953. The decree set 1,390,000 quintals (141 million pounds) of rice as the preliminary deficit low-duty quota in addition to the basic low-tariff quota of 3,250,000 quintals (330 million pounds).

Import requirements of milled rice in Cuba during the July-June 1953-54 year were reported to be arrived at statistically in the following manner:

Milled Rice	Spanish Quintals	Million Pounds
Stocks, July 1, 1952	1,000,000	101
Imports, July 1, 1952-June 27, 1953	5,206,000	528
Domestic crop, 1952-53	1,800,000	183
	8,006,000	812
Stocks, July 1, 1953	850,000	86
Consumption, 1952-53	7,156,000	726
Est. domestic crop, 1953-54	1,800,000	183
	5,356,000	543
Basic quota of GATT	3,250,000	330
Remaining deficit, 1953-54	2,106,000	213
66 percent of deficit	1,389,960	141
Plus basic quota	3,250,000	330
Preliminary rice quota, 1953-54	4,639,960	471
Or in round figures - 4,640,000 quintals (471 million pounds) as established by Decree 1778, July 1, 1953.		

Decree No. 1778 of July 1, stipulated further that the quantity of rice of the July-June 1952-53 quotas which entered Cuba after June 30, 1953, should be deducted from the new preliminary rice quota. Accordingly, in Resolution No. 312, dated July 20, and published July 28, the quantity of 410,000 quintals (42 million pounds) was deducted from the preliminary rice quota of 4,640,000 quintals, as that pertaining to quotas announced for the rice quota year 1952-53 and entered into Cuba after June 30, 1953.

From the 4,230,000 quintals (429 million pounds) remaining after the above deduction, 126,900 quintals (13 million pounds), or 3 percent of 4,230,000 quintals, also was deducted. In Decree 1668 of July 4, 1953, 3 percent of the basic and preliminary quotas was set aside as a reserve rice fund (for further explanation, see Resolution Three in translation of Decree 1668 contained in this circular). The balance of 4,103,100 quintals (416 million pounds) is to be distributed by individual quotas among the Cuban importers of rice in accordance with the terms of Decree No. 1668.

The 1952-53 quota of rice authorized for import into Cuba at the low-duty rate was 5,500,000 quintals (558 million pounds). Rice arrivals into Cuba during the 1952-53 quota year (July-June) according to ships' manifests (preliminary) totaled 521 million pounds as compared with 496 million pounds in the preceding quota year, and with an average of 575 million pounds during the 5-year period ended June 30, 1952. Of the total arrivals in the 1952-53 quota year, 99 percent was imported from the United States, and 1 percent from the Dominican Republic, Italy, Honduras, Nicaragua, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Canada.

CUBA: Milled rice arrivals, by months,  
quota years, July 1947 - June 1953

Month	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
July.	12	12	25	139	76	95
August	16	3	35	54	44	27
September	42	28	35	97	61	42
October	103	49	99	135	55	49
November	106	98	79	45	70	64
December	115	77	85	59	53	52
July-December	394	267	358	529	359	329
January	8	71	93	75	15	47
February	8	51	7	61	34	40
March	35	37	12	51	29	37
April	30	19	24	26	26	25
May	100	21	13	17	24	5
June	37	29	3	2	9	38
January-June	218	228	152	232	137	192
Total	612	495	510	761	496	521

1/ Subject to revision.

Compiled from ships' manifests (preliminary data).

Rice imports in the last half of the quota year (January-June) were distributed fairly evenly throughout the period except for a sharp drop in May when importers were awaiting the decision of the Ministry of Commerce which would permit the direct entry of an additional 500,000 quintals (51 million pounds) of rice without first going through the

Free Zone of the port of Matanzas. Decree No. 1449, published in the Official Gazette on June 10, 1953, to this effect cleared the way for renewed imports during the month of June.

CUBA: Rice imports, by country of origin,  
January-June 1953, with comparisons

Country of origin	Average	1951	1952 1/	January-June 1/	
	1943-52			1952	1953
	Million pounds	Percent	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
United States	462	91	631	471	137
Ecuador	31	6	0	2/	0
Chile	6	1	2	0	0
Mexico	3	1	0	0	0
Other countries	8	1	8	2	2/ 3/ 6
Total	510	100	641	473	137 192

1/ Compiled from ships' manifests. 2/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 3/ 3 million pounds from Dominican Republic.

Compiled from official sources, except as noted.

Regulations governing the buying operations of Cuban rice importers during the 1953-54 rice-import quota year are set forth in a translation of Decree No. 1668, July 4, 1953, as follows:

MINISTRY OF COMERCE (Habana, Cuba)  
DECREE No. 1668

WHEREAS: Imports of rice from the United States of America made in accord with the tariff treatment prescribed in the Note placed at the foot of Item 253-B, in Part II of Schedule IX annexed to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, were mainly regulated by Presidential Decree No. 4934 of November 12, 1951, published in the Official Gazette of December 15 of the same year, there being followed for the enjoyment of the lowest Custom duties the order of priority that results from the registration in the Registry of Rice Purchase Contracts created by Resolution No. 216 of the Ministry of Commerce dated July 13, 1951.

WHEREAS: Experience gained from the application of the regime established by said Decree No. 4934 and other administrative regulations which have been put into effect to date advise the adoption, for the 1953-1954 rice year, the system of allocation of specific quotas to each importer doing business in the national territory, subject to the provisions of a general nature that are inserted in the dispositive portion of this Decree, in considering that this will provide greater benefits for the adequate supplies of the country, due to the circumstances prevailing on the world rice market, especially in the United States of America which is our main source of supply of this important foodstuff.

THEREFORE: In use of the powers vested in me by the Constitutional Law and other laws and Decree-laws in force, on proposal of the Minister of Commerce and having heard the Minister of Agriculture,

I RESOLVE:

First: Imports of rice during the 1953-54 rice year, charged against the basic and preliminary deficit quotas referred to in the Note placed at the foot of Item 253-B in Part II of Schedule IX annexed to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, shall be made in accord with the administrative regime established by this Decree.

Second: Each rice importer registered in the Registry of Importers of Rice created by Resolution No. 216 of the Ministry of Commerce dated July 13, 1951, shall be entitled to import this article during said rice year, on account of the volume of the quotas mentioned in the preceding section, in the amount that may result from the application of the following rules:

I.- A basic-index period of imports is established which is comprised of the years 1948, 1949 and 1950.

II.- A supplementary basic-index period of imports is established which is comprised of the years 1951 and 1952.

III.- Importers who made imports during any of the years thereof shall be included in the basic-index period, even though they made imports in any of the years in the supplementary basic-index period.

IV.- Importers who made imports in any of the years of said period shall be included in the supplementary basic-index period, except those who made such imports in any of the years of the basic-index period.

V.- The individual import quotas charged against the basic and preliminary deficit quotas shall be fixed for each of the importers included in the index periods, basic and supplementary, as follows:

- a) The arithmetical average of each importer shall be determined taking as the basis the number of the years in which he made imports.
- b) The distribution factor of each importer shall be determined by dividing his arithmetical average by the sum of all the arithmetical averages.
- c) The individual quota of each importer shall be determined by multiplying his distribution factor by the quantity of the basic and preliminary deficit quotas.
- d) The individual quotas shall be assigned in 100-pound bags and in figures whose hundred contain no fraction.

Third: From the amount reached by the said basic and preliminary deficit quotas shall first be deducted 3 percent to set up a rice reserve fund at the disposal of the Ministry of Commerce, to provide for unforeseen contingencies that arise in the adequate supplies of the country or in the regime of distribution established by this Decree or to be distributed in accord with the regulations that may be adopted in due course by said Ministry.

Fourth: The Ministry of Commerce shall notify every importer within 15 calendar days following the promulgation of this decree of the quota which, in accord with what is provided in Section Second, may have corresponded to him.

On the bulletin board of the Directorate General of Imports and Exports of the Ministry of Commerce there shall be fixed, within the above time, for general information, the full list of importers who have been granted quotas, setting forth the following data: the name of the natural or juridical person; the address and number of bags of 100 pounds of which his quota consists.

Fifth: Each importer must import a minimum of 60 percent of the total quota that has been assigned to him before December 31, 1953, and the remaining 40 percent before March 31, 1954.

Sixth: The Minister of Commerce is authorized to change the period of time and the percentages established in Section Five, when he notes that the imports of rice charged against the basic and preliminary deficit quotas corresponding to this rice year are not being made in a normal rhythm or if periodic export quotas are established by the United States Government.

Seventh: The compulsory minimum of 60 percent of the full quota that has corresponded to each importer referred to in Section Five shall not prevent him from importing before December 31 of this year the totality of that quota.

Eighth: The Minister of Commerce shall of his own accord cancel from the quota that has been assigned to each importer the quantity of rice that he has failed to import within the periods and in the percentages mentioned in Section Five of this Decree, in order to add the same to the reserve fund established in Section Three.

Ninth: The regime that is established in this Decree for rice imports during the 1953-1954 rice year, charged against the basic and preliminary deficit quotas, shall be likewise applied to the additional deficit quota of the same year, if such is allocated.

Tenth: The period of registration of rice contracts in the Registry of Rice Purchase Contracts operating at the Bureau of Imports of the Division of Imports and Tourism of the Directorate General of Imports and Exports of the Ministry of Commerce is declared open from the effective date of this decree, in accord with the requisites established in

Resolution No. 216 of this Ministry dated July 13, 1951, published in the Official Gazette of August 7 of the same year.

The aforesaid registration period shall be closed on May 30, 1954.

Eleventh: All imports of rice, from any source, without the prior requisite of registration of the Rice Purchase Contract in the Registry established by Resolution No. 216 of the Ministry of Commerce dated July 13, 1951, published in the Official Gazette of August 7 of the same year is hereby prohibited and without the authorization for removal from Customs issued by said Ministry.

Twelfth: Notwithstanding the foregoing regulation, the Minister of Commerce is authorized to prohibit, through a proper Resolution, the registration of Rice Purchase Contracts and the issuance of authorizations for removal from Customs of said article, when from either there might be a change in the regime adopted for the application of the Note placed at the foot of Item 253-B, in Part II of Schedule IX annexed to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade or an assumed infringement of any official rule on the subject of supplies or prices of rice, or which in any other way might obstruct the adequate supplies of the country or the normal operation of commercial activities.

Thirteenth: The sale, assignment or transfer, in any manner, of the right to a quota is hereby prohibited. In case of an infringement of this rule, the quota shall be cancelled and shall increase the reserve fund established in Section Three of this Decree.

The same destination shall be given to total or partial cancellations of quotas ordered by the Ministry of Commerce for any cause not provided for in this decree.

Fourteenth: The provisions contained in Sections Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Fifteenth and Sixteenth of this Decree shall also be applicable to all imports of rice made during the 1953-1954 rice year, even though they may be entitled to a tariff treatment different from that established for the basic and deficit quotas referred to in the Note placed at the foot of Item 253-B of the Customs Tariff.

Fifteenth: The Collectors of Customs are prohibited from issuing declarations for consumption and the subsequent removal of rice from Customs unless the interested importer presents the proper authorization for clearance issued by the Chief of the Bureau of Imports of the Division of Imports and Tourism of the Directorate General of Imports and Exports of the Ministry of Commerce.

Sixteenth: In order to obtain the authorization referred to in the preceding Section, the importers shall present to the Bureau of Imports of the Directorate General of Imports and Exports of the Ministry of Commerce, in 5 copies, an application which shall contain the following particulars:

- a) The name and surnames, firm's name or names and the address of the applicant;
- b) The Registration Number at the Registry of Rice Importers;
- c) The number of the registration of the Rice Purchase Contract in the Registry of Rice Purchase Contracts, in which shall be included the quantities of rice which it is sought to remove from Customs jurisdiction;
- d) The customhouse from which the rice is to be moved;
- e) The name of the vessel on which the shipment was made and the date of its arrival;
- f) The numbers of the Manifest and the Item;
- g) The quantity in quintals to be removed under the authorization for clearance that is applied for, and
- h) The total quantity imported to the date of the application during the quota year in question.

The application referred to in this Section shall have attached thereto copies of the consular and commercial invoices.

Seventeenth: The Chief of the Bureau of Imports shall handle the applications for authorization referred to in the preceding section and shall keep a book in which he shall credit each importer with the quantity of rice covered by the purchase contracts registered in the proper Registry, charging on said account the quantities for which authorizations for removal from Customs have been issued.

Eighteenth: The original of the application with the authorization for clearance shall be delivered to the interested party for presentation at Customs, which shall keep them on file for proper records. One of the copies shall be kept at the Bureau of Imports of the Division of Imports and Tourism of the Directorate General of Imports and Exports of the Ministry of Commerce and the other shall be delivered to the interested party for his records, the remaining copies being sent to the Directorate General of Supplies and to the Division of Statistics and Economic Analysis of the Ministry of Commerce.

Nineteenth: On the authorizations for removal of rice from Customs pertaining to the basic and deficit tariff quotas of the 1952-53 rice year, made after June 30 of this year, there shall be placed a note stating that fact, for all tariff and administrative effects.

Twentieth: The Directorate General of Customs shall advise, within the first 10 days of every month, the Ministries of Commerce and Agriculture, of the amount of the rice imports made through all the customhouses of the Republic during the preceding month, no matter what the country of origin might be.

Twenty-first: All rules in conflict with what is provided in this Decree, especially in Decrees numbers 2548 of June 17, 1952, published in the Official Gazette of August 8 of the same year, and 4934 of November 12, 1951, published in the Official Gazette of December 15 of said year are hereby derogated.

Twenty-second: The Ministers of the Treasury and Commerce, in the portion that corresponds to each of them, are charged with the fulfilment of what is provided in this Decree and shall issue such supplementary rules as may be necessary for its better execution.

Twenty-third: This decree shall take effect on the date of publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic.

Done in Habana, Presidential Palace, on this 4th day of July, 1953.

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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 12-53

October 5, 1953

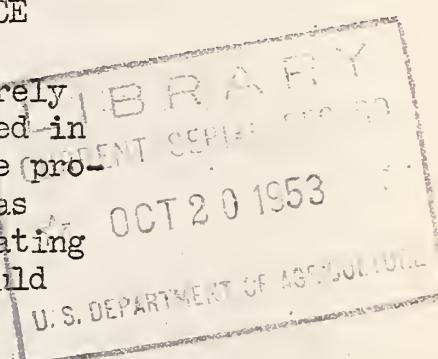
## JAPAN TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF SYNTHETIC RICE

The developments discussed in this report are entirely problematical. The report itself is being published in response to recent inquiries for information on the production of synthetic rice in Japan. The product has not yet proved that it can break the traditional eating habits of the Japanese, and its potentialities should not be over-emphasized.

A synthetic rice, composed of various combinations of wheat flour, potato starch, and natural rice in powdered form, has been developed in Japan. It is intended as an "extender," to be mixed with real rice in cooking, and not to be eaten alone. Commercial production has begun on a small scale and is expanding. Consumer demand for the small amount produced so far has been good despite a relatively high price. The ultimate consumption level will depend on the degree of consumer acceptance as the product is given critical home trial, and on the extent to which the price can be lowered through the expected mass production and probably through Government subsidies.

The potential production capacity of synthetic rice is virtually unlimited as the process is simple and the materials required are plentiful. Food imports will not be affected by the new product for the next year at least. The eventual effect, if the product is successful, may be a reduction in imports of barley and increase in imports of wheat, possibly followed by reduced rice imports.

History of Synthetic Rice. - Japanese technicians in the National Food Research Institute first conceived the idea of producing a synthetic rice about 1940, when war was approaching and concern over food supplies was growing. This was the year that rationing of rice to consumers was started. Research continued during the war but little progress was made, probably for the fundamental reason that the synthetic rice would not actually add any food to the nation's larder but represented an attempt to make the non-rice foods more attractive and palatable. In the absolute shortage of foodstuffs that prevailed it was not necessary to cater to the epicurean desire for a product that looked and tasted like rice.



After the war, efforts to simulate rice were intensified. Because of the large supplies of sweet potatoes, a food not highly valued by the Japanese, attention centered on this commodity. The result was not successful. Although the sweet potato starch was turned into a grain, it dissolved when cooked and of course had little resemblance to rice in taste. After this failure the experimenters turned to other ingredients, including wheat flour as it became more plentiful through imports and increased domestic production. By the fall of 1952, technicians in the National Food Research Institute under the direction of Dr. Yosito SAKURAI had managed to develop a grain that when cooked was closely similar to rice in shape, consistency and color. The ingredients were wheat flour, starch from Irish potatoes, powdered rice and water.

Composition.— Various combinations of these ingredients have been tried successfully insofar as a satisfactory grain is concerned. Wheat flour contributes a hard, glutinous quality as well as protein, and Irish potato starch adds bulk and whiteness. In all of the combinations tried only a minor proportion — 10 to 30 percent — is powdered rice, and this is produced from the low-cost broken grains in imported rice. According to the Research Institute technicians no special type of wheat flour is necessary, but soft and medium soft grades, from either indigenous or imported wheat, are usually used. If the proportion of flour in the mixture is low, however, hard flour is more desirable.

Government food officials plan soon to prescribe certain standards for the synthetic rice. These will include: Water content not to exceed 14 percent; content of at least 335 calories per 100 grams, and fiber and ash content not to exceed 0.4 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively. Manufacturers will be permitted to determine their own composition within those specifications. A common mixture now is 70 percent wheat flour, 20 percent potato starch, and 10 percent powdered rice; some is made without any starch — 70 percent flour and 30 percent rice. The reason for the low proportion of starch at present is its relatively high cost, about 30 percent more than wheat flour. Food officials believe that a mixture of about 50 percent starch, 40 percent flour, and 10 percent rice will ultimately prevail; too high a ratio of wheat (more than 40 percent) produces a slightly dark color and somewhat of an odor. A higher input of wheat increases the protein content but the caloric value remains about the same. Some of the brands are vitamin enriched.

The National Food Research Institute estimates the chemical composition of two mixtures of synthetic rice, as compared with natural rice, as follows:

	Water	Protein	Carbohydrate	Fat	Fiber	Ash	Calories
	(percent)			(number)			
Natural rice	14.4	6.4	77.5	0.8	0.3	0.6	343
Synthetic "A" 1/14.0	3.7		81.1	0.3	0.3	0.6	344
Synthetic "B" 2/14.0	7.0		77.4	0.5	0.4	0.7	343

1/ 50 percent potato starch, 40 percent wheat flour, and 10 percent powdered rice. 2/ 70 percent wheat flour, 20 percent potato starch, and 10 percent powdered rice.

Commercial Use. - Commercial interest in the synthetic rice was keen when the improved type was developed in late 1952. Production started in three small plants early in 1953. Five plants are reported to be producing now, with a capacity of about 100 tons per day. Actual production is estimated at about 50 tons. Other companies are in the process of installing equipment, and the Food Agency estimates that production capacity will reach 500 tons per day by the end of 1953. Expansion to 1,000 tons per day by late 1954 is anticipated. This much, officials believe, is reasonably sure of attainment. Any further enlargement of productive capacity would depend on the market.

A Synthetic Rice Manufacturers Association has been organized with about 25 member concerns, including the prospective manufacturers. Eight of these are starch manufacturers, two flour millers, two wholesalers, and ten are other food processors. The larger flour millers have not joined, but it is understood that they are also planning to enter the synthetic rice field.

A patent problem presents an obstacle to maximum development of the industry at present, but Government officials expect it to be solved shortly. The Matsuura Chemical Company of Kyoto holds the patent for the manufacturing process. Officials hope to conclude an arrangement whereby the Synthetic Rice Manufacturers Association will obtain use of the patent and will collect reasonable royalties from members to be transferred to the patent holder. The Government itself does not plan to buy the patent as has been proposed.

Consumer Reaction. - The future of synthetic rice depends, first, on how the consumers react to it. Regardless of other considerations, unless it appeals to the taste of the Japanese consumer - who has a critical palate when it comes to rice - the product will never have any real importance. Early reports indicate that the product has been fairly well received, although those who have tried it may not be typical of the public generally. Government nutritionists recently sponsored a taste test among a group of Tokyo residents, including members of a housewives' association. Of the 96 attendants polled, 55 said the taste was very good, 25 said fairly satisfactory, and 16 reported dislike. As to appearance, 41 said they could not detect the presence of the synthetic rice, 49 said they could detect it on careful observation, and 6 said they could detect it immediately.

Perhaps a more significant indication of consumer reaction is that demand for the product appears to be strong, despite a relatively high price, and that manufacturers have shown confidence in the market by planning to expand production. On a visit to Tokyo's large Mitsukoshi Department Store, the reporting officer saw passing shoppers examining packages of the synthetic rice with considerable curiosity and interest. This cellophane-wrapped package was labeled "New Rice." The sales clerk estimated that about fifty 1-kilogram bags were sold daily.

Direct reports from a few individuals who have tried the product are favorable. This reporter presented samples to two Japanese acquaintances with the request that they try it; one at least was known to be ultra-discriminating on rice quality. In both cases the idea of eating a synthetic rice was viewed with skepticism. In both cases there was surprised admission that the taste was good. When cooked the mixture (one part synthetic to four parts natural rice) was slightly "sticky" or glutinous, but the color was indistinguishable from that of natural rice. Both testers said that the mixture tasted better than much of the imported rice (Japanese consumers consider the long-grain rice, especially from Southeast Asian countries, to be of inferior taste). One tester, after the trial, instructed his wife to buy a supply of the synthetic product; she informed him that it was too costly, and this points to the chief present deterrent to consumption of the new product.

The Price. -- Next to the factor of consumer acceptance, the price of synthetic rice will determine how large a part it plays in Japan's food picture. Large-scale consumption of synthetic rice will come, if at all, largely from the lower income groups. The more prosperous will prefer to buy expensive, rice sold outside the ration, or other more costly foods.

At present the price of synthetic rice is too high to reach the mass market. The current price as compared with natural rice is as follows (cents per pound): Synthetic rice, 10 to 13; rice rationed, 8.6 and rice, outside ration, 16 to 18.

The cheapest synthetic rice is higher than the rationed rice (the more expensive brands are vitamin enriched). The quantity of rice rationed is considered inadequate by most families, and they try to supplement it with rice sold outside the ration, if they have the money, or to stretch it with a product such as pressed barley. The latter practice is common among the lower income families. It is highly probable that the synthetic rice would be considerably more popular than pressed barley as a rice extender if the price were comparable. The pressed barley now sells at about 7 cents per pound.

Food management authorities believe that there would be a large demand for the synthetic rice if its price could be lowered to about the level of the rationed rice. They think that this will be possible with large-scale production, and possibly with some degree of Government subsidy. At present the cost of processing is estimated at about 25 percent of the total cost.

Potato starch, at 7.3 cents per pound, is the most expensive of the three ingredients; the broken rice costs about 6.5 cents and the wheat flour 5.7 cents.

The Government's Stake in Synthetic Rice. - The Government is encouraging the development of a synthetic rice industry. Its hope is that mass consumption of the new product will eventually permit a reduction in imports of high-cost rice. The other grains that would have to be procured to replace rice are much less expensive than rice. The latter costs (as estimated in the Government budget for 1953) about \$213 per metric ton (\$9.66 per 100 pounds), milled, delivered in Japan, compared with about \$90 (\$4.08 per 100 pounds) for wheat. Even with allowance for the milling loss on wheat (hardly a loss since the by-products are valuable) there would be a substantial saving.

A reduction in imports of rice would also reduce the food subsidy drain on the Government. At present imported rice is sold to consumers at about 3 cents per pound, or \$65 per metric ton (\$2.95 per 100 pounds), less than it cost the Government. Total subsidies on imported foods will amount to about \$80,000,000 in this fiscal year, and about \$60,000,000 of this is for rice. Any substitution of locally manufactured synthetic rice for imported rice would obviously be a direct gain for the treasury.

This gain will be partially offset if the Government subsidizes manufacture of synthetic rice as has been proposed. The purpose of the subsidy would be to lower the synthetic price to the level of the rationed rice, at which price it is believed the consumer demand would be substantial. The subsidy as proposed would apply to the potato starch. It is estimated that the synthetic price could be lowered to the ration price if starch prices were lowered by about 1.7 cents per pound. A by-product of the starch subsidy would be the benefit to domestic potato growers.

The Government is considering at least three lines of action to promote synthetic rice: (1) subsidies on raw materials, especially starch; (2) assistance to manufacturers in obtaining commercial loans for plant equipment, and (3) quality inspection of the manufactured product.

There is strong support for synthetic rice in the press and in economic circles; if the product appears to be feasible the Government probably will be willing to extend financial and other assistance.

Conclusions. - The future of synthetic rice in Japan appears promising on the basis of early reactions from consumers. Indications are that the price will be reduced to a level that will permit widespread consumption if the product does in fact prove acceptable to consumers. Production capacity is being expanded rapidly, and a capacity of 500 tons per day by early 1954 is likely. Plans for expansion beyond that level, to as much as 1,000 tons per day, are being pushed. This and more can be achieved without undue difficulty if the demand develops as the manufacturers and food officials hope.

Assessment of the potentialities of synthetic rice must take into account certain basic factors: (1) the Japanese consumer demands rice - of high quality insofar as possible - as his staple food; the synthetic product is not rice, however camouflaged, but an adulterant; (2) synthetic rice does not add to the country's food supply; it only alters the form of certain foodstuffs already available.

Despite these factors, synthetic rice could make a useful contribution to Japan's food program. There is a limit to the amount of rice available now and which will be available in the foreseeable future; use of synthetic rice could stretch out the supply for the country's rapidly increasing population and thus contribute to economic and social stability. Any replacement of relatively high-cost rice with wheat will be a financial gain, and will save foreign exchange. Furthermore, the use of potato starch will make for more efficient disposition of the indigenous potato crop.

The new product will have no effect on imports during the next year; production will be relatively small and the raw materials can be supplied from existing stocks. If and when production reaches large scale proportions, such as a 300,000-ton level as hoped for by late 1954, the first effect may be to reduce the imports of barley. Synthetic rice is expected to be a direct competitor of pressed barley, now widely used, as an extender for rice. At the same time additional imports of wheat may be anticipated, about in the quantity used in the synthetic rice (roughly 50,000 tons of wheat, allowing for milling, to each 100,000 tons of synthetic rice). It is doubtful if the synthetic rice will substitute to any considerable extent for present wheat products such as bread and noodles, so that for the most part, the additional wheat used in the synthetic will be a net increase.

A time lag would probably ensue before imports of rice could be reduced. The Government must maintain a specified supply of rice for the consumer ration; this supply comes from domestic collections from farmers and from imports. Only as the synthetic rice reduces the demand for rice sold outside the collection program would official stocks go up and a reduction in imports be feasible. Food officials are looking forward hopefully, however, to this occurrence.

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Report by J. C. Dodson, Agricultural Attaché, American Embassy, Tokyo, Japan.

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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 13-53

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★ OCT 26 1953 ★

October 12, 1953

U.S. RICE EXPORTS. SEE NEW RECORD

United States rice exports in terms of milled in the August-July 1952-53 marketing year reached a new record of 17,391,000 bags (100 pounds), a slightly larger volume than the previous record of a year earlier. Total exports included liftings of military supply programs to Korea and the Ryukyu Islands, for which statistics have not yet been incorporated in customs data of the Bureau of the Census.

Rice exports were maintained at a high level during the year predominantly by a sharp increase to South Korea. Exports to Hong Kong and the Ryukyu Islands, new markets in the season, also contributed to the gain, and minor increases occurred to Canada, British West Indies, Switzerland, and Saudi Arabia. Exports declined substantially to such major markets as Japan, Cuba, Indonesia, and Europe, and less rice was exported to Ceylon, Philippines, British Honduras, Venezuela, and Liberia.

To illustrate the pronounced increase in United States rice exports in the season just ended compared with the years prior to World War II, annual marketing year exports of United States rice by country of destination beginning 1935-36 are shown in Tables 1 and 2 of this summary. Rice exports during the 17-year period show a phenomenal rise from nearly 800,000 bags to 17,400,000 bags in 1952-53. The first appreciable increase in exports following 1935-36 occurred in 1937-38, when negotiations between the United States and Cuban rice interests resulted in increased trade between the two countries. From that time until 1951-52, when Japan was the principal country of destination, Cuba was the main customer for United States rice.

Before the war, certain European countries -- Greece, Belgium and Luxembourg, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, France and Germany -- were also an important but declining market for our rice. During this same period, certain South American importing countries were beginning to increase production, so the United States was also losing markets there.

Because of the strong world demand for rice since the beginning of World War II, however, United States exports of that cereal have increased at a remarkable rate. The wartime demand for rice in the Allied countries, when trade was cut off from Asia's exporting countries, was reflected in a sharp increase in United States rice production, and a doubling of our exports as

compared with the prewar average. The continuing world rice shortage in post-war years resulted in the exportation of twice the wartime volume of United States rice. By 1951-52 and 1952-53, the demand in Asia's importing countries was still so great that United States rice exports were nearly double again the volume exported in the postwar average (1945-46/49-50) period. Thus, the United States is now exporting nearly 8 times the level of rice exports in the prewar years.

The entrance of enemy forces in 1942 into the surplus area of Asia -- Burma, Thailand, and Indochina -- meant that approximately 70 percent of the world's exportable supplies of rice were cut off from the allied countries. The total rice import availabilities of the Allied Nations in 1942 were reduced to only a small fraction of that volume. As a result, in 1943 the allied countries formed a world rice-allocating body as a part of the Combined Food Board, later known as the International Emergency Food Committee. As a member of that organization, the United States furnished all available surpluses from a rapidly expanding production of rice for allocation to foreign countries.

Cuba during the 5 years preceding World War II had obtained one-half of its rice imports from the Orient and one-half from the United States. In the early part of the war it became necessary for Cuba to rely on the United States for the major share of its rice imports, usually the southern long-grain varieties.

In addition to much larger shipments to Cuba, the main increases in rice exports during the war were to Canada, which also replaced Asiatic imported rice with United States rice, and to the United Kingdom. In the war years considerable quantities were shipped also to the Soviet Union. World allocations were continued until I.E.F.C. was discontinued in December 1949. Under those allocations, Japan was unable to obtain foreign rice, and European countries were allocated relatively minor amounts.

Since early 1950, Cuba and Japan have been the principal markets for United States rice. Although the United States has exported very little rice to the United Kingdom and to the colonial territories since 1949, in 1951-52 and 1952-53, around 700,000 bags were shipped to Ceylon. Rice exports to Japan in 1951-52 exceeded those to Cuba, and important quantities were shipped to Korea and Indonesia.

At the beginning of 1952, following the main harvest of their 1951-52 crops, Thailand and Burma discontinued the Governmental policy of allocating rice to Asia's importing countries. This caused a month-to-month scarcity in some of the importing countries, especially Ceylon. Together with the active demand for rice imports in Japan, this resulted in the request for more rice than was available for export from the United States at the beginning of the 1952-53 (August-July) marketing year.

The United States Department of Agriculture therefore on September 10, 1952, announced the allocation of United States rice to importing countries for the

August-December 1952 period, and subsequently rice was allocated for export through the August-June period of 1952-53.

Exports of United States rice, in terms of milled in 1952-53, to countries other than those shown in Table 1 of this article were as follows (in bags of 100 pounds): Mexico 2,761; El Salvador 112; Nicaragua 46; Republic of Panama 1,056; Canal Zone 283; Bermuda 4,978; Bahamas 7,306; Jamaica 69,200; Haiti 2,360; Dominican Republic 6; Colombia 63; Peru 515; Chile 511; Uruguay 250; Iceland 8,458; Sweden 6; Norway 28; Denmark 334; United Kingdom 20; France 145; Germany 335; Finland 80; Greece 204; Syria 61; Lebanon 32; Israel and Palestine 332; Aden 601; State of Bahrein 2,300; Afghanistan 49; India 500; Philippines 6; New Guinea 7,117; French Pacific Islands 3,438; Western Pacific Islands 8,855; Tangier 18, and Belgian Congo 192.

Rough rice exports in 1952-53 totaled 673,000 bags, of which 87 percent, or 586,000 bags were exported to Canada. In addition, 43,000 bags were shipped to Cuba, and 41,000 bags to Venezuela. Of the milled rice exports as reported by the Bureau of the Census, 95 percent was classified as milled rice, containing over 25 percent whole kernels, and 5 percent was milled rice containing not over 25 percent whole kernels.--By L. Thelma Willahan.

Table 1. RICE: United States exports to specified countries,  
averages 1935-36/49-50, annual 1950-51/52-53  
(August-July) 1/

Continent and country	1935-36: 1940-41: 1945-46: to : to : to : 1939-40: 1944-45: 1949-50:	1950-51: 1,000 : 1,000 : 1,000 : 1,000 : 1,000 : 1,000 : 1,000 bags : bags : bags : bags : bags : bags	1951-52: 1952-53: 2/: 2/: 1951-52: 1952-53
WESTERN HEMISPHERE:			
Canada.....	126: 347: 403: 381: 443: 601		
British Honduras.....	3/ : 5: 13: 23: 22: 3		
British West Indies.....	1: 38: 97: 24: 54: 81		
Cuba.....	1,507: 3,142: 4,923: 6,965: 5,118: 4,858		
Netherlands Antilles.....	2: 5: 9: 25: 25: 41		
Venezuela.....	7: 22: 76: 354: 196: 86		
Bolivia.....	5: 2: 12: 3/ : 4: 6		
Other countries.....	117: 57: 88: 17: 34: 9		
Total W. Hemisphere.....	1,765: 3,618: 5,621: 7,789: 5,896: 5,685		
EUROPE:			
Belgium & Luxembourg.....	79: 0: 73: 161: 57: 52		
France.....	32: 14: 11: 3/ : 3/ : 3/		
Germany.....	11: 0: 14: 1: 1: 3/		
Greece.....	89: 24: 109: 295: 209: 3/		
Netherlands.....	50: 43: 3: 2: 0: 0		
Sweden.....	33: 46: 3/ : 3/ : 3/ : 3/		
Switzerland.....	10: 46: 32: 89: 21: 39		
United Kingdom.....	78: 380: 1: 0: 0: 3/		
U.S.S.R. ....	0: 270: 9: 0: 0: 0		
Other countries.....	59: 13: 86: 8: 3: 9		
Total Europe.....	441: 836: 338: 556: 291: 100		
ASIA:			
Saudi Arabia.....	3/ : 3: 80: 104: 91: 139		
Ceylon.....	0: 4: 0: 3/ : 741: 647		
Indonesia.....	3/ : 3/ : 646: 9: 1,799: 1,100		
Philippines.....	5: 2: 1,136: 0: 71: 3/		
China.....	3/ : 3/ : 796: 0: 0: 0		
Korea.....	0: 0: 98: 271: 2,821: 4/4,460		
Japan.....	3/ : 1: 279: 326: 5,430: 4,420		
Other countries.....	1: 9: 60: 6: 9: 5/ 799		
Total Asia.....	6: 19: 3,095: 716: 10,962: 11,565		
OCEANIA.....	1: 10: 5: 3: 13: 19		
Liberia.....	3/ : 38: 36: 23: 73: 22		
Other Africa.....	1: 45: 1: 3: 4: 3/		
Total World.....	2,214: 4,566: 9,096: 9,090: 17,239: 17,391		

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary.

3/ Less than 500 bags. 4/ Based on information relating to military supply programs, 1952-53 allocations, and shipments to R.O.K. 5/ Includes 179,000 bags to Hong Kong; and a preliminary estimate of 616,000 bags to the Ryukyu Islands.

Table 2. RICE: United States exports to specified countries,  
1935-36 to 1949-50 (August-July) 1/

Continent and country	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: bags						
<b>WESTERN HEMISPHERE:</b>							
Canada.....	72:	60:	147:	195:	156:	280:	207
British Honduras.....	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	0
British West Indies.....	2/	2/	2/	2/	2:	2/	43
Cuba.....	333:	378:	2,033:	2,395:	2,395:	3,420:	3,506
Netherlands Antilles.....	2:	1:	2:	2:	3:	3:	3
Venezuela.....	2/	2/	2:	3:	27:	13:	75
Other countries.....	93:	30:	377:	64:	50:	83:	176
Total W. Hemisphere.....	500:	469:	2,561:	2,659:	2,633:	3,799:	4,010
<b>EUROPE:</b>							
Belgium & Luxembourg.....	39:	28:	151:	133:	46:	0:	0
France.....	28:	40:	85:	1:	5:	0:	0
Germany.....	28:	8:	14:	2:	0:	0:	0
Greece.....	83:	41:	162:	126:	32:	0:	0
Netherlands.....	10:	13:	118:	95:	16:	0:	0
Sweden.....	24:	4:	33:	30:	74:	75:	156
Switzerland.....	0:	0:	0:	3:	45:	0:	157
United Kingdom.....	46:	58:	74:	108:	106:	2/	0
Other countries.....	27:	13:	64:	97:	94:	18:	26
Total Europe.....	285:	205:	701:	595:	418:	93:	339
<b>ASIA:</b>							
Saudi Arabia.....	0:	0:	2/	2/	2/	0:	0
Ceylon.....	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0
Indonesia.....	2/	0:	0:	0:	0:	2/	0
Philippines.....	3:	1:	2:	13:	6:	8:	2
China.....	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	1
Korea.....	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0
Japan.....	2/	0:	0:	0:	2/	2:	2/
Other countries.....	1:	2/	2/	2/	5:	2:	2/
Total Asia.....	4:	1:	2:	13:	11:	12:	3
<b>OCEANIA:</b>							
Liberia.....	0:	0:	0:	0:	2/	0:	42
Other Africa.....	2:	2:	1:	2/	1:	1:	1
Total World.....	791:	677:	3,265:	3,267:	3,068:	3,907:	4,402

Continued

Table 2. RICE: United States exports to specified countries, 1935-36 to 1949-50 (August-July) 1/ Continued

Continent and country	1942-	1943-	1944-	1945-	1946-	1947-	1948-	1949-
	: 43 :	: 44 :	: 45 :	: 46 :	: 47 :	: 48 :	: 49 :	: 50
	: 1,000:	: 1,000:	: 1,000:	: 1,000:	: 1,000:	: 1,000:	: 1,000:	: 1,000
	: bags							
WESTERN HEMISPHERE:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Canada.....	: 502:	: 382:	: 364:	: 300:	: 243:	: 545:	: 457:	: 469
British Honduras.....	: 2:	: 0:	: 21:	: 27:	: 10:	: 8:	: 2:	: 17
British West Indies.....	: 6:	: 110:	: 30:	: 96:	: 22:	: 112:	: 136:	: 121
Cuba.....	: 2,469:	: 2,984:	: 3,330:	: 3,355:	: 4,650:	: 5,267:	: 5,223:	: 6,119
Netherlands Antilles.....	: 7:	: 8:	: 6:	: 8:	: 6:	: 2:	: 12:	: 19
Venezuela.....	: 17:	: 5:	: 1:	: 2:	: 4:	: 5:	: 148:	: 220
Other countries.....	: 1:	: 14:	: 24:	: 78:	: 15:	: 49:	: 96:	: 265
Total W. Hemisphere.....	: 3,004:	: 3,503:	: 3,776:	: 3,866:	: 4,950:	: 5,988:	: 6,074:	: 7,230
EUROPE:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Belgium & Luxembourg.....	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 9:	: 1:	: 1:	: 75:	: 277
France.....	: 0:	: 0:	: 69:	: 26:	: 2/	: 24:	: 3:	: 2/
Germany.....	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 2/	: 2/	: 2/	: 46:	: 24
Greece.....	: 0:	: 49:	: 69:	: 6:	: 1:	: 94:	: 221:	: 224
Netherlands.....	: 0:	: 0:	: 213:	: 2/	: 2/	: 1:	: 2/	: 12
Sweden.....	: 2/	: 2/	: 2/	: 2/	: 2/	: 2/	: 2/	: 0
Switzerland.....	: 2/	: 0:	: 71:	: 2/	: 2/	: 2/	: 49:	: 110
United Kingdom.....	: 1,119:	: 605:	: 179:	: 2/	: 0:	: 2:	: 1:	: 2/
Other countries.....	: 453:	: 557:	: 362:	: 95:	: 10:	: 101:	: 215:	: 60
Total Europe.....	: 1,572:	: 1,211:	: 963:	: 136:	: 12:	: 225:	: 610:	: 707
ASIA:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Saudi Arabia.....	: 0:	: 0:	: 15:	: 7:	: 32:	: 130:	: 153:	: 76
Ceylon.....	: 0:	: 0:	: 22:	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 0
Indonesia.....	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 601:	: 0:	: 10:	: 886:	: 1,733
Philippines.....	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 1,862:	: 2,541:	: 2/	: 1,257:	: 18
China.....	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 648:	: 492:	: 2,028:	: 811:	: 0
Korea.....	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 447:	: 42:	: 0
Japan.....	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 0:	: 1:	: 1:	: 24:	: 1,367
Other countries.....	: 2/	: 11:	: 31:	: 8:	: 190:	: 5:	: 31:	: 75
Total Asia.....	: 2/	: 11:	: 68:	: 3,126:	: 3,256:	: 2,621:	: 3,204:	: 3,269
OCEANIA.....	: 13:	: 13:	: 16:	: 7:	: 1:	: 3:	: 5:	: 6
Liberia.....	: 17:	: 49:	: 83:	: 39:	: 57:	: 22:	: 56:	: 7
Other Africa.....	: 131:	: 90:	: 2/	: 2/	: 2/	: 1:	: 2:	: 2
Total World.....	: 4,737:	: 4,877:	: 4,906:	: 7,174:	: 8,276:	: 8,860:	: 9,951:	: 11,221

1/ Milled rice including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice, and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Less than 500 pounds.

Source: Bureau of the Census.



# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FR 14-53

November 3, 1953

## FOREIGN MARKET NOTES--RICE

### Japanese Rice Import Requirements for 1953-54 Above Earlier Expectations

C R I C

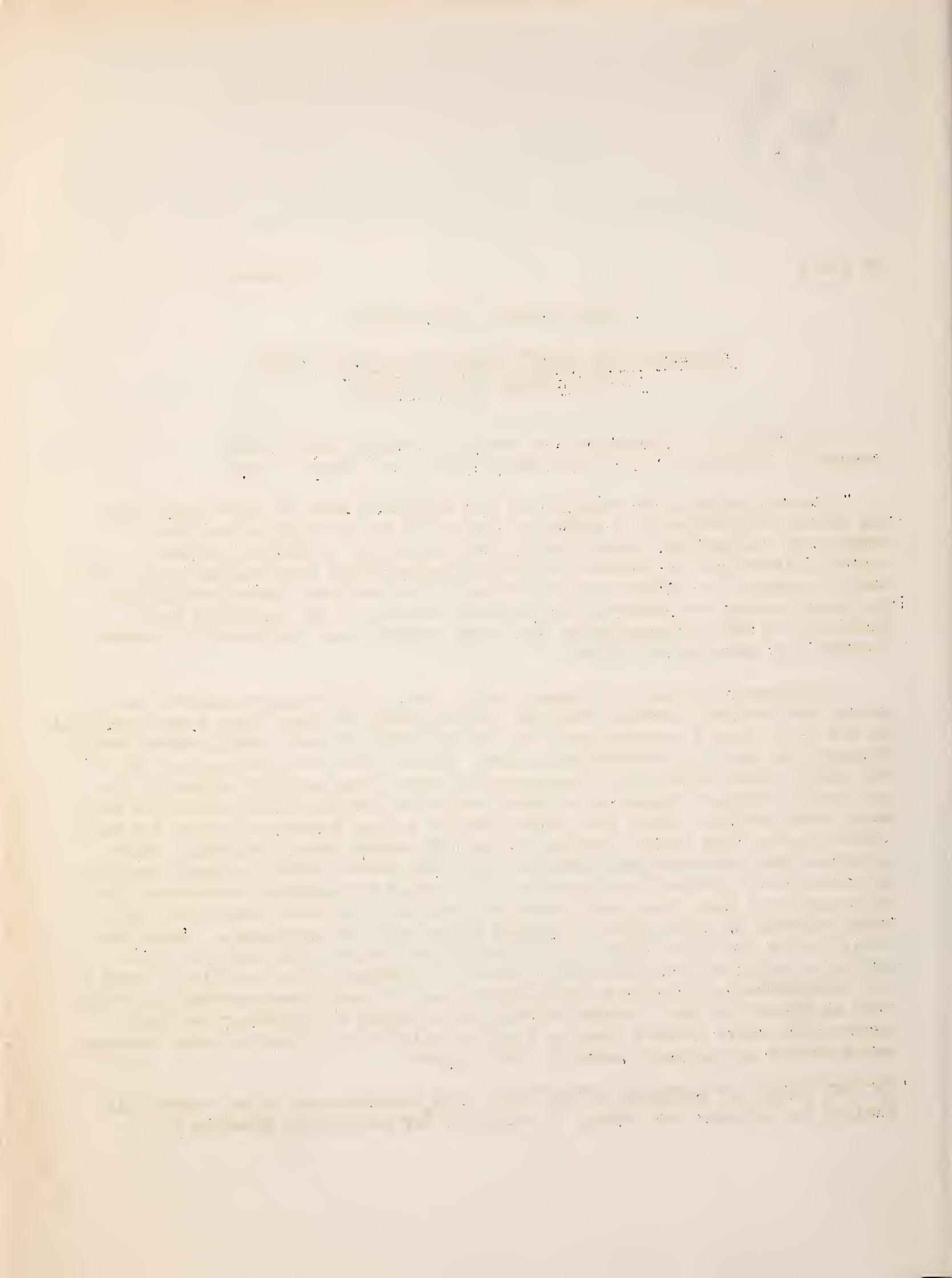
★ NOV 17 1953

The following information has been received by cable from ~~M.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE~~  
Dexter V. Rivenburgh, Marketing Specialist, from Tokyo, Japan:

"Latest information relating to the 1953 rice crop in Japan indicates the lowest production in a number of years due to unfavorable weather throughout the growing season and typhoon damage.<sup>1/</sup> This will require material increases in over-all imports of cereals and particularly rice from world sources. In addition to the reduction of national income resulting in lower returns to farmers, the Japanese Government is faced with the necessity of heavy expenditures for added imports plus increases in amounts involved in domestic subsidies."

"Japanese purchases of United States rice in 1953-54 are expected to exceed the amounts exported from the United States to Japan from either the 1951 or the 1952 crops (approximately 272,000 and 221,000 short tons, respectively). Indications are that substantial amounts already have been contracted for. The total amount which may be exported to Japan from the 1953 United States crop will, however, depend to a large extent on the rice price levels in the next three months. Japan will again provide a most important outlet for the United States rice crop if prices for export grades remain reasonably competitive with Southeast Asia prices. However, should there be sharp advances in prices the Japanese Government will be forced to maximize procurement in other areas at more favorable prices regardless of grade or condition, and total exports to Japan from the United States will be curtailed. There are considerable stocks of rice outside the United States which have not been moving in world export during 1953 because of unusually low quality. There is now some evidence of price concessions on part of such stocks amounting to as much as \$30-\$50 a ton. Should United States prices of export-grade rise appreciably above October levels, then the shift of purchase to other sources would become an economic necessity for Japan."

<sup>1/</sup> The first FAS estimate of the 1953 world production of rice, which will include an estimate for Japan, is scheduled for release on November 16.





# FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

★ NOV 30 1953

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

November 16, 1953

FR 15-53

## WORLD RICE CROP PROSPECTS FAVORABLE

World rice production in 1953-54 (August-July) will be slightly larger than in the year before, according to the first estimate of the Foreign Agricultural Service. Rice acreages were extended in many areas of the world, and in most of the countries larger crops than last year are either now being harvested or in prospect.

The 1953-54 world harvest of rough rice is forecast at 359,000 million pounds as compared with 357,000 million pounds in the preceding year, and with 335,000 million pounds in the prewar average (1935-36/39-40) period. Increased production is indicated for all Continents. Larger acreages were sown in all regions except Europe, where favorable weather during the growing season resulted in yields per acre that more than offset the acreage decline.

Northern Hemisphere: Harvesting of bumper crops is now in progress in some countries of the Northern Hemisphere, while in others the outturn is below normal. Substantial gains occurred in the rice acreage of North America, notably the United States and Cuba, where larger crops are being harvested. The forecast of rice acreage in Cuba shows a pronounced increase, and with continued good weather, the crop will be larger than in 1952 by about 100 million pounds (rough rice basis). Rice acreage increases were planned also in Central America, but production in some countries was retarded by unseasonal weather.

Italy and Spain are harvesting larger crops from increased acreages. Producers of France and Greece were unable to plant all the intended acreages because of unfavorable weather, but improved conditions in later months resulted in larger crops than in the preceding year. Shortage of water for irrigation in Portugal also prevented some acreage intended for rice from being sown, and continued dry weather caused a reduction in per-acre yields as compared with a year earlier.

Egypt's production is expected to show a moderate increase. Permits were granted for a larger rice acreage than in 1952, but water supplies were not adequate to permit a return to the large rice area of the average (1945-49) postwar period. Iran and Iraq increased the acreage in rice, and 1953 crops are expected to be among the largest on record. Turkey's rice crop is expected to be as large as last year's record outturn.

Nearly all the available rice area of South Korea was planted this year, generally good weather has prevailed through the season, and the current harvest is reported to be one of the best in history.

RICE (rough): Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries,  
averages 1935-36/39-40 and 1945-46/49-50, annual 1951-52 to 1953-54 1/

Continent and country	Acreage				Yield per acre				Production			
	Average		1953-54		Average		1952-53		1952-53		Average	
	to	to	1951-52	1951-52	1953-54	1953-54	1951-52	1951-52	1953-54	1953-54	1951-52	1951-52
NORTH AMERICA												
Costa Rica.....	35:	41:	57:	66:	65:	1,066:	1,078:	1,321:	1,348:	1,308:	37.3:	44.2:
El Salvador.....	26:	41:	40:	36:	35:	1,392:	1,402:	1,432:	1,647:	1,429:	36.2:	57.5:
Mexico.....	96:	190:	257:	203:	210:	1,904:	1,731:	1,278:	1,488:	1,571:	182.8:	328.9:
Nicaragua.....	25:	28:	31:	38:	43:	1,080:	1,286:	900:	1,068:	930:	27.0:	36.0:
Panama.....	48:	124:	164:	169:	170:	1,042:	1,169:	1,121:	1,211:	1,265:	50.0:	145.0:
United States.....	1,004:	1,690:	1,967:	1,972:	2,158:	2,234:	2,099:	2,328:	2,468:	2,378:	2,243.4:	3,547.9:
Cuba.....	45:	114:	145:	156:	209:	958:	1,075:	1,805:	1,959:	1,794:	43.1:	122.6:
Dominican Republic.....	80:	100:	113:	123:	133:	1,062:	1,207:	1,265:	1,203:	-	85.2:	120.7:
Total.....	1,456:	2,472:	2,915:	2,927:	3,174:	-	-	-	-	-	2,807.6:	4,580.6:
											5,850.0:	6,221.8:
												6,611.0
EUROPE												
France.....	1:	7:	44:	54:	40:	1,400:	2,586:	3,507:	3,643:	3,750:	1.4:	18.1:
Greece.....	5:	9:	48:	53:	42:	1,840:	2,167:	2,573:	3,119:	3,571:	9.2:	19.5:
Italy.....	362:	305:	420:	445:	450:	4,677:	4,357:	4,405:	4,729:	4,778:	1,692.9:	1,328.9:
Portugal.....	47:	53:	77:	82:	78:	3,253:	3,013:	4,045:	3,524:	3,333:	152.9:	159.7:
Spain.....	110:	129:	151:	159:	157:	4,236:	4,358:	4,305:	4,560:	5,478:	477.0:	562.2:
Total countries shown.....	533:	510:	747:	801:	775:	-	-	-	-	-	2,343.8:	3,098.3:
Other Europe.....	20:	49:	88:	124:	160:	-	-	-	-	-	48.8:	103.2:
Total Europe.....	5523:	5529:	839:	922:	925:	-	-	-	-	-	2,392.6:	2,201.5:
											3,200.7:	3,724.5:
												3,888.4
ASIA												
Iran.....	534:	544:	476:	544:	600:	1,566:	1,598:	1,654:	1,708:	1,833:	836.0:	869.3:
Iraq.....	392:	643:	520:	525:	1,283:	993:	763:	1,048:	1,048:	-	503.0:	638.4:
Turkey.....	78:	56:	74:	124:	121:	2,642:	2,452:	2,908:	2,269:	2,326:	206.1:	137.3:
Burma.....	12,671:	8,704:	9,430:	9,883:	10,400:	1,238:	1,116:	1,230:	1,301:	1,385:	15,683.3:	9,715.7:
Ceylon.....	870:	964:	1,089:	1,000:	-	672:	584:	738:	700:	-	583.0:	562.7:
China.....	3/ 48,855:	45,557:	45,350:	46,470:	47/	2,259:	2,219:	2,161:	2,290:	-	3/110,372.0:	101,100.0:
Manchuria.....	782:	600:	893:	920:	-	1,829:	1,752:	1,697:	1,707:	-	98,000.0:	103,650.0:
India.....	4/	71,500:	73,665:	75,000:	75,500:	4/	1,063:	1,018:	1,057:	1,086:	1,430.4:	1,051.0:
Indochina 2/.....	14,306:	12,060:	12,600:	13,000:	14,000:	1,006:	987:	1,016:	1,008:	964:	4/	76,000.0:
Indonesia 2/.....	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	14,396.0:	11,900.0:	12,800.0:
Java and Madura.....	9,794:	8,922:	10,181:	10,200:	-	1,442:	1,325:	1,454:	1,471:	-	14,126.0:	11,823.0:
Outer Islands.....	5,500:	6,150:	6,054:	6,300:	-	1,273:	1,216:	1,161:	1,270:	-	7,000.0:	7,480.0:
Japan.....	7,862:	7,832:	7,870:	7,850:	7,850:	3,408:	3,116:	3,148:	3,046:	3,042:	26,793.1:	24,405.0:
Malaya.....	745:	831:	799:	825:	835:	1,634:	1,367:	1,518:	1,901:	1,916:	1,217.1:	1,216.0:
Pakistan.....	6/ 18,706:	21,601:	22,481:	23,016:	23,500:6/	1,301:	1,245:	1,159:	1,190:	-	1,202.6/	24,339.8:

ASIA (Continued)	
Philippine Republic	4,852;
South Korea	2,838;
Taiwan (Formosa)	1,607;
Thailand	7,088;
Total	211,960;
SOUTH AMERICA	
Argentina	52;
Brazil	2,323;
British Guiana	70;
Chile	13;
Colombia	150;
Ecuador	95;
Paraguay	5;
Peru	107;
Surinam	37;
Uruguay	13;
Venezuela	2;
Total	2,888;
AFRICA	
Egypt	463;
French Morocco	-;
French West Africa	1,562;
Madagascar	1,207;
Sierra Leone	346;
Total	4,396;
OCEANIA	
Australia	23;
Fiji	10;
Total	40;
World total	211,677;

Philippines	6,388;
South Korea	2,676;
Taiwan (Formosa)	1,638;
Thailand	10,212;
Total	207,556;
Philippines	4,963;
South Korea	2,838;
Taiwan (Formosa)	1,607;
Thailand	7,088;
Total	211,960;
Argentina	102;
Brazil	4,290;
British Guiana	97;
Chile	79;
Colombia	300;
Ecuador	203;
Paraguay	14;
Peru	120;
Surinam	41;
Uruguay	29;
Venezuela	28;
Total	2,888;
Egypt	732;
French Morocco	-;
French West Africa	1,431;
Madagascar	1,207;
Sierra Leone	346;
Total	4,396;
Australia	23;
Fiji	10;
Total	40;
World total	211,677;

Crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere countries during the latter part of the year, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Southern Hemisphere countries during the first part of the following year. 2/ Preliminary. 2/ Freiiminary. 2/ The area formerly known as French Indochina is now comprised of the Kingdom of Laos, the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the State of Vietnam. 2/ Average 1936-37 to 1939-40. 2/ Korea. In the 1935-39 period, production in South Korea averaged about 6,750 million pounds annually.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

On the other hand, the 1953 rice crop of Japan is the smallest in many years. Substantial crop losses were sustained in the typhoons and floods of late June and August. In addition to that, cool weather delayed transplanting, and continued to retard growth throughout the growing season. Prolonged periods of cool, cloudy weather, when sunshine was essential for growth, prevented a large part of the crop from maturing normally.

Although statistics for the 1953 rice harvest of China have not been reported, indications point to a decrease below last year's outturn because of unfavorable weather.

Main rice crop of southern Asia: Increased production is in prospect for other countries of the Far East where the crop is now in the growing stage and will be harvested mainly in December. These include Burma, India, Indochina, Malaya, Pakistan, the Philippine Republic and Thailand. Production is expected to increase also in Taiwan (Formosa) and Ceylon, where 2 crops a year are harvested. Acreages and production of the crops harvested in these countries in late 1953 are larger than a year ago, and indications point to further increases in the first crops of 1954. Indonesia plans to increase rice acreage to be planted mainly in February.

Southern Hemisphere: Rice acreages are continuing to be expanded in the countries of South America, notably Colombia and Venezuela. Brazil's rice acreage is expected to show an increase because of the current scarcity and high price of rice. Since rice in the southern areas of South America is only now being planted, it is too early to appraise crop prospects, except to apply average yields per acre to acres reported planted.

Surplus countries: Without exception, larger rice crops are being, or are expected to be, harvested in all countries that usually have surpluses for export, and also in some that have rice for export only from time to time. The total increase over 1952-53 production in these countries is estimated at 7,000 million pounds (2,450,000 short tons in terms of milled rice).

The largest gain in production in these surplus countries is in the "rice bowl" of Asia - Burma, Indochina, and Thailand - where total production is estimated at 44,700 million pounds of rough rice, an increase of 4,200 million pounds (1,470,000 short tons in terms of milled) from the 40,500 million pounds of a year earlier.

Burma increased rice acreage by about 500,000 acres, and above-average yields per acre are expected to be harvested. Rice acreage was extended substantially also in Cambodia and South Vietnam. Drought in Cambodia, however, reduced considerably the total production of that country. Dry weather in South Vietnam decreased the output to some extent, but production is expected to exceed that of last year because of the large increase in acreage planted. Prospects in Thailand are for a bumper crop in 1953-54.

Gains in production are expected in other surplus countries (in order of volume) in Pakistan, Brazil, South Korea, United States, Egypt, Spain, Colombia, and Italy. It is too early in the season to have production estimates of Taiwan (Formosa), Ecuador, British Guiana, Uruguay, Argentina, Australia and Madagascar; however, if normal weather results in the production of average yields per acre, these countries also will have surpluses larger than those obtained from the 1952-53 production.



